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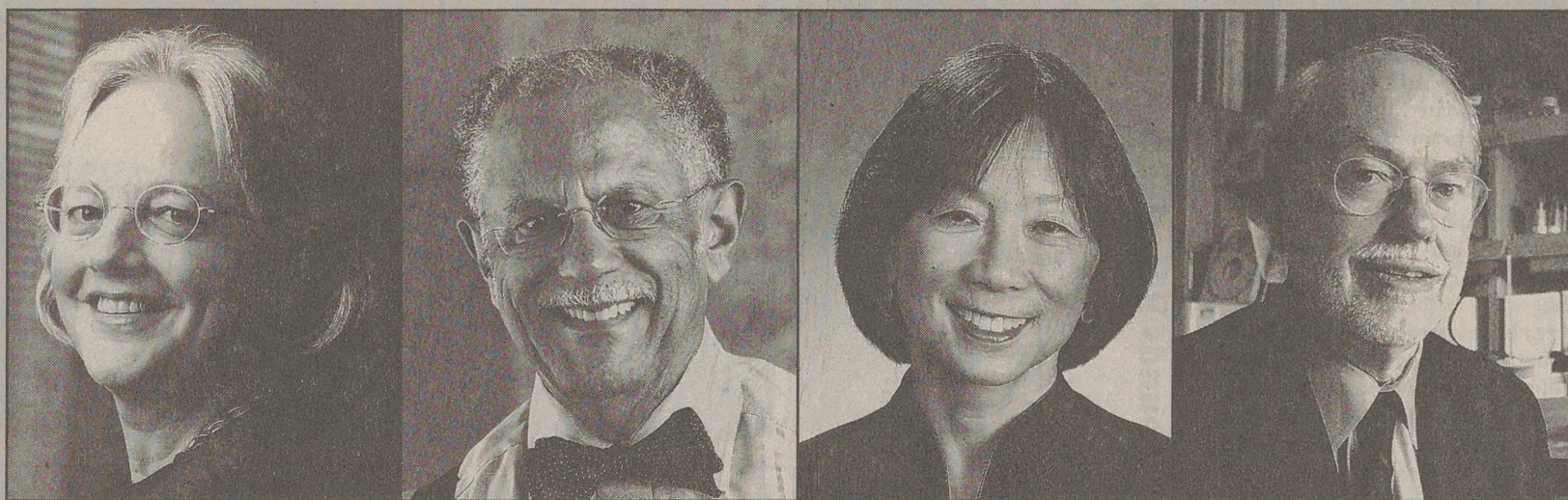
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VOLUME 137, NO. 18

TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 2008

LEWISTON, MAINE

2008 Commencement Speakers Announced



Philanthropist Susan Berresford, climate change innovator Warren M. Washington, literary scholar Pauline Yu and Nobel Laureate Phillip Sharp will receive honorary degrees at this year's commencement ceremony.

ELIZA REED & REGINA TAVANI
DEPUTY EDITOR-IN-CHIEF & MANAGING NEWS
EDITOR

This year's honorary degree recipients will include former Ford Foundation President Susan Berresford, RNA researcher Phillip Sharp, climate change specialist Warren M. Washington and East Asian literary scholar Pauline Yu.

Each will receive their degree and deliver speeches at the College's 142nd Commencement ceremony, which will be held May 25.

The Doctor of Humane Letters degree will be conferred to Susan Berresford, who, in her tenure as Ford Foundation President from 1996 to 2007, has served as a major philanthropic leader.

Berresford directed billions of dollars in grant money toward causes aimed at reducing poverty and injustice and promoting democracy, international cooperation and human achievement. During the 1970s, she advocated directing the foundation's grant money toward civil rights and feminist programs.

In addition to her work with the Ford Foundation, Berresford serves as chair of United States Artists, another grant-making organization. She is a member of the European Foundation Centre's Governing Council and is a philanthropic consultant for The New York Community Trust.

Though no longer president, Berresford still leads projects for the Ford Foundation including the U.S.-Vietnam Dialogue Group on Agent Orange/Dioxin.

Berresford is also the recipient of the 2007 John W. Gardner Leadership Award from the Independent Sector, which is a professional association for grant-

making organizations such as the Ford Foundation.

Nobel Laureate and RNA researcher Phillip Sharp will be awarded a Doctor of Science degree.

Sharp, who studies the molecular biology underlying gene expression in relation to cancer, is currently a professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he has conducted a significant amount of his research.

He has worked at and served as director of the MIT Center for Cancer Research and led the University's Department of Biology for a number of years. In 2000, he became founding director of the McGovern Institute.

Sharp won the 1993 Nobel Prize for his contributions to the understanding of gene structure. He has authored more than 360 papers and co-founded two pharmaceuticals, Biogen Idec and Alnylam, the latter of which is developing RNAi-based therapeutics.

RNAi, or RNA interference, is a function involving molecules switching genes on and off. RNAi is currently a focal point of research at Sharp's lab and has the potential to lead to a new category of therapeutics for cancer.

Sharp is also an elected member of the National Academy of Sciences, the Institute of Medicine, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Philosophical Society.

Warren Washington, the head of the Climate Change Research Section at the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR), will also receive a Doctor of Science degree.

During his 45-year tenure at the NCAR, he has helped counsel five U.S. presidents on issues and policies of climate change. In 2007, his group at the NCAR shared in receiving the Nobel Peace Prize for their contribution to the Intergovernmental Panel on

Climate Change.

Washington's primary work has involved developing computer models that predict atmospheric and climate conditions. More recently, Washington has worked to integrate ocean and sea ice physics into his earlier models.

Washington has served on many governmental advisory boards including the president's National Advisory Committee on Oceans and Atmosphere from 1974-1984, and the U.S. Secretary of Energy's advisory board from 1990-1993. He served a six-year term, starting in 1995, on the National Science Board, which provides science-related advice to Congress and the White House. He is currently serving on the secretary of energy's Biological and Environmental Research Advisory Committee.

Washington served as chair for the advisory panel for the 1986 film "Climate Puzzle," which was produced by the PBS television series "Planet Earth."

Washington has produced over 120 publications, including the commonly referenced textbook, "An Introduction to Three-Dimensional Climate Modeling," which he co-authored with Claire Parkinson.

The degree of Doctor of Letters will be awarded to distinguished East Asian literary scholar and critical thinker, Pauline Yu.

Since 2003, Yu has been president of the American Council of Learned Societies. The council aids research in the social sciences and humanities through providing conference grants, individual fellowships and international scholarly exchange. Yu currently serves as adjunct senior research scholar and visiting professor of East Asian languages and cultures at Columbia University.

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Farnsworth Gives Kroepsch Award Talk

LIZ MILLER
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Winner of the 2008 Kroepsch Award for Excellence in Teaching, Professor of English Robert Farnsworth spoke last Wednesday on the reciprocal process of understanding poetry. In a talk entitled "Psst!: Poems Teach Themselves," Farnsworth, an accomplished poet, demonstrated his accomplishments through a stimulating articulation of the virtues between teaching and poetry.

Jill Reich, Dean of Faculty and Vice President for Academic Affairs, introduced Farnsworth, affirming that he was the kind of educator all seek to be. Reich stated that he "brings the intensity and integrity of his poems to his teaching."

Farnsworth's lecture intended to dispel some of the anxieties people feel surrounding the immense implications of poetry, and to walk his audience through three poems: William Butler Yeats' "Among Schoolchildren," Elizabeth Bishop's "Poem," and Ross Gay's "It Starts at Birth."

Farnsworth wanted to acknowledge the postulation that not only do people teach poems, but that poems teach themselves. "Once they've gotten into your blood, poems do teach themselves. The words, the lines tell each other more complex and subtle things, just by being in proximity within a living person... All I want for my students, writers and readers both, is that those poems they bear inside keep challenging and comforting and troubling and delighting them as long as they live," he said.

"The whole point of life is to be both unsettled and in the process of becoming more aware, and teaching on a college campus gives one the chance to be and do this," noted Farnsworth, who has been teaching at Bates since 1990, in an interview conducted after his talk.

"I conceived of my responsibility in the talk as a matter of somehow trying to demonstrate how I habitually encourage students, especially the writers I work with, but others as well, to read; how I'd urge them to think about poems," he said.

Farnsworth has published two collections from Wesleyan University Press, entitled "Three or Four Hills and a Cloud" and "Honest Water." His accomplishments in writing have won him a P.E.N. New England Discovery Award (2005) and a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship in Poetry (1989-1990). During the summer of 2006, he was the poet-in-residence at The Frost Place in Franconia, N.H.

In referencing his acceptance of the award, Farnsworth admitted, "Public adulation does make me a little nervous or embarrassed, but I'm happy to accept the award in the spirit in which it was given. It acknowledges the time and energy I put into teaching, and into trying to find ways to get literature, especially poetry, to speak to many people."

Georgia Nigro, Whitehouse Professor of Psychology and Farnsworth's wife, received the award in 1989.

The Ruth M. and Robert H. Kroepsch Award was established in 1985 by the late Robert H. Kroepsch '33 and continues to honor members of the faculty for their outstanding performances as teachers. It recognizes faculty members' ability to find an intersection between teaching and scholarship and foster a desire to learn among students.

Reed, Lots-to-Gardens Program Each Receive Annual Stringfellow Award for Impact on Local Community

MATT MARIENTHAL
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

This year's Stringfellow Award was presented to Erin Reed '08 and the community-based organization Lots-to-Gardens, of which she has been an integral part during her four years at Bates.

The award, named in honor of William Stringfellow '49, is given on an annual basis to a Bates organization or student as well as a Maine organization or citizen that has demonstrated significant work in social justice.

The award reflects the ideals of Stringfellow, a prominent lawyer and theologian, who, as Multifaith Chaplain Bill Blaine-Wallace noted, exem-

plified "justice and peace in this country and around the world."

Reed has been an active participant in the Bates and Lewiston communities since she arrived in Maine. She is a Student Volunteer Fellow at the Harvard Center for Community Partnership, where she works 8-10 hours per week, organizing a number of volunteer programs provided by Bates.

She works closely with the Trinity Jubilee Center, which functions as a soup kitchen and runs after-school programs.

At Bates, Reed has served as an influential part of a number of organizations including New World Coalition, OUTfront and People Eating Plants. As coordinator, she helped

fund raise and organize other educational events.

In 2007, the Harvard Center gave Reed a grant in order to "organize the summer programming for a non-profit bike shop called Spoke Folks Bike Shop." The shop provided free repairs for kids at local community centers.

Lots-to-Gardens is an organization that aims to provide healthy food and build strong communities. They achieve these goals by planting gardens in urban settings.

Most of their gardens are located in apartment side-beds. This helps families become self sufficient, instead of depending on grocery stores for their fruits and vegetables, as well as more aware of their eating habits. Currently, their gardens are serving over 60 families and senior citizens.

The organization of Lots-to-Gar-

dens depends on many members of the community who typically do not serve in leadership roles. The program enfranchises teenagers and low-income individuals by providing them with important positions. This has motivated residents to become more involved within their community.

The program also inspires altruism, because youth often work to grow food for those who would otherwise not be able to afford it.

Reed has worked there since her freshman year.

Currently, there are 15 gardens within the Lewiston area sponsored by Lots-to-Gardens, and they hope to expand. Lots-to-Gardens is always looking for short and long term volunteers to help them with their cause.

Reed said receiving the Stringfellow Award was a great honor for both Lots-to-Gardens and herself.

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Stillman and Rand remain in the lead after week five.

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Afroze Baig '11 questions the motives behind Bates'

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A Statistical Analysis of Bates' Composite Athletic Success

Mac King '09 looks at the past, present and future of Bates Sports. • Page 8

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Independent Study Proves Popular Short Term Alternative

LIZ MILLER
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Most students love Short Term because it is a liberated time when they are allowed to be creative and do their own thing. Yet, there is often confusion among students as to the regulations of Short Term and over who exactly is allowed to remain on campus for access to Dining Services and housing.

According to the Student Handbook, Short Term is a "period of focused academic study when students on campus are engaged in structured coursework." However, there are other options open for students besides registering for a Short Term unit, some of which people are not normally aware of.

James Reese, Associate Dean of Students, said that there are five premises under which students are allowed

to stay on campus. The first is enrollment in a Short Term class. The second constitutes participating in "sport term," during which a student may stay on campus until their sport's season ends. The next two options are either assisting a faculty member in research or acting as a teaching assistant to a faculty member, under which they must sign a form saying they will do at least 20 hours of work per week. Finally, any graduating senior who has already completed three Short Term units and needs to stay on campus for approved work or voluntary work is permitted to stay on campus.

Independent studies are one of the most popular alternatives to a regular course. Dean Reese noted that he sees independent studies as "a way that creative projects surface here."

An example of someone completing an independent study during Short

Term 2008 is the Greg Waters Band, which will use the five weeks to record a CD of original music. Utilizing equipment and space under the name of the Bates Musicians Alliance, the group received approval for production under the head of the Music Department. According to Dan Arnsow '10, the drummer of the band, the responsibilities of the group include not only recording, production, composition and performance, but also community outreach.

"We are also working simultaneously with people in the community who want to learn about the recording process and other particulars of the music world," Arnsow said.

Independent Studies are a popular Short Term alternative, however, with approximately 50 students applying each year, only 15 or so are granted the opportunity to complete one during a given Short Term. "The faculty mem-

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NEWS

The Bates Student

Recyclemania! Competition in Home Stretch

AFROZ BAIG
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Recyclemania!, a competition that encourages students across campus to recycle at higher rates, is currently in its fifth week. The event runs from Feb. 4 to April 4, excluding the week-long break in February.

Environmental Coordinator Julie Rosenbach, who is leading the effort, said, "Recycling rates in our student residence halls are extremely low, and they are only marginally better in student houses. Recyclemania! is geared at focusing a spotlight on recycling in a positive, spirited way. My hope is that students start encouraging each other to recycle more and dissuading their peers from contaminating recycling bins with trash."

This year, Emily Grady '10 is serving as assistant to Rosenbach, and Lucy Piacenza '08, Beth Lakin '08, Christine Arsnow '08, Kevin Thorson '10, Hannah Roebuck '10, Jen Linton '08, Lindsay Swan '11 and Rob Friedman '11 are working as student EcoReps, whose primary responsibility is to weigh the recycled materials accumulating from all the houses and dorms.

Items that count as recycled goods include mixed paper, returnable cans and bottles, newspapers and magazines, #2 plastic, glass and tin. Each week data is collected and recorded, and on April 4, the house and dorm that have recycled the most per capita will not only have bragging rights, but all residents will walk away with a \$5 gift certificate to Nezinscot Farm.

"You're hearing a lot about climate change, depletion of fossil fuel resources, and pollution associated with landfills and waste incineration.

Believe it or not recycling makes a big difference," said Rosenbach.

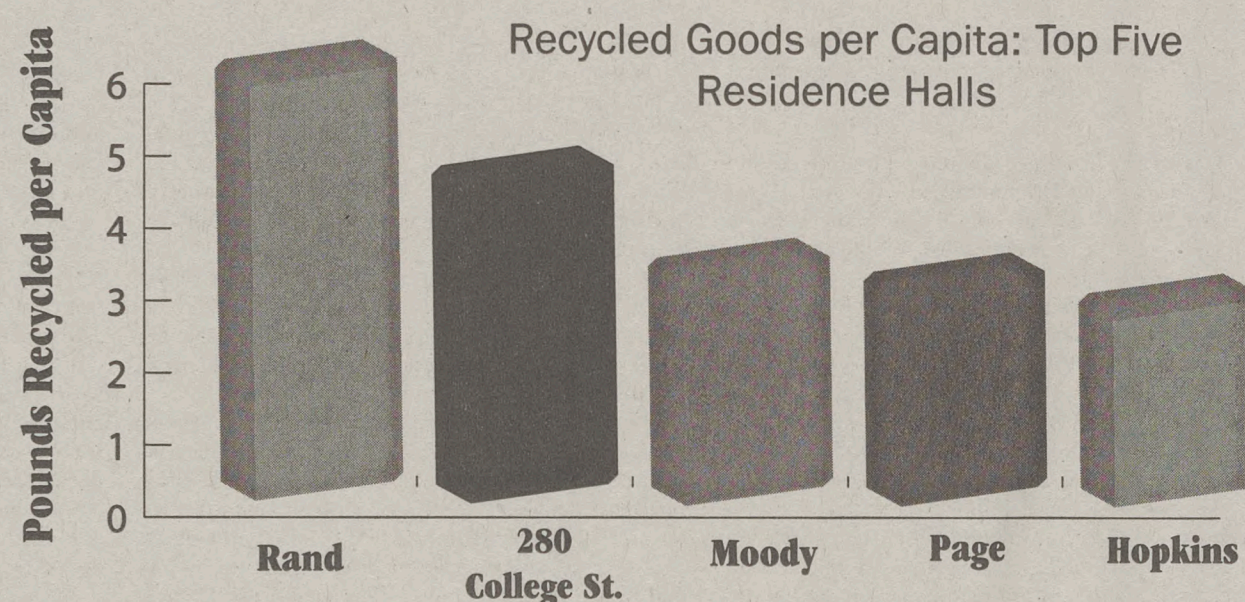
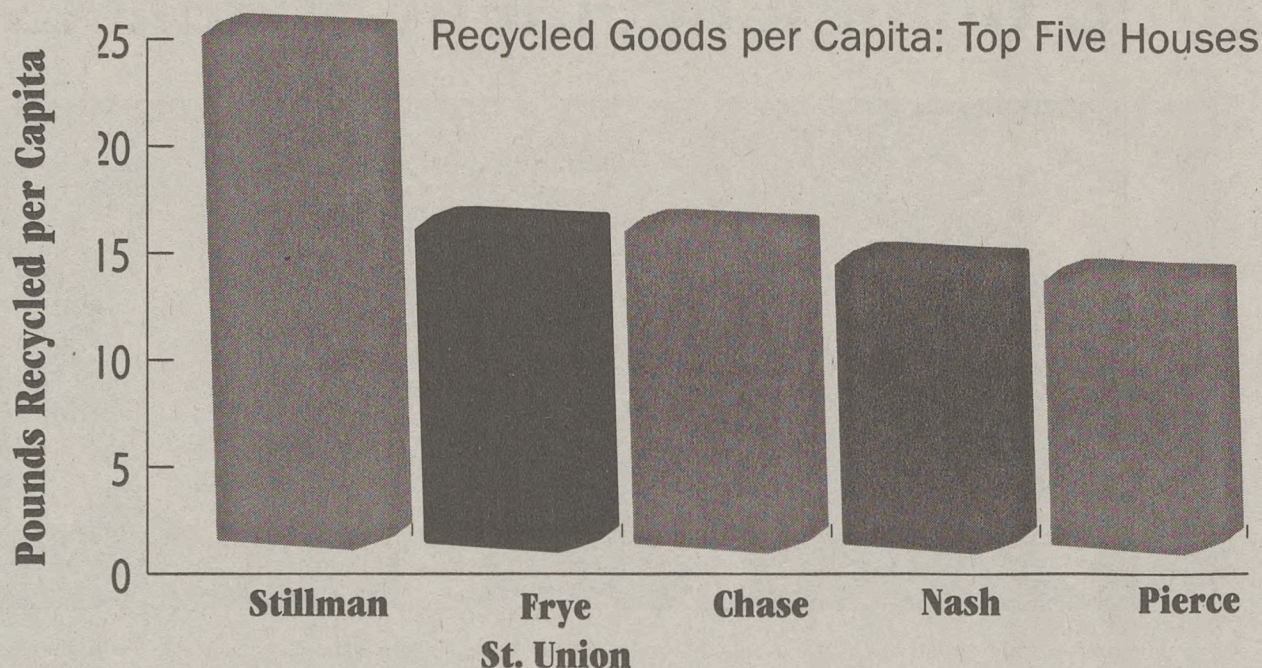
Rosenbach warned students to be vigilant about where they discard their trash. If trash is discarded into the blue bins designated for recycling then the entire load of recycling becomes contaminated, she said.

Currently, the house with the most recycled goods per capita is Stillman. The dormitory with the most recycled goods per capita is Rand Hall. For those houses and dorms looking to catch up, Rosenbach has insightful advice.

Pizza boxes may be recycled; however, food bits inside must be thrown out beforehand. Additionally, the boxes should be placed under "cardboard recycling." Cardboard boxes from 12 and 24 packs of beverages can be recycled in the mixed paper bin. The key to recycling cans and bottles, she said, is to dispose of all liquids inside of them before throwing them in the recycling bin.

"Recyclemania! is a huge undertaking and cannot be successful unless the entire student body is participating. It's really hard to get people excited about recycling, so our results haven't been great. This has all been a learning process for the coming years, where we can hopefully get Recyclemania! on everyone's mind," said Friedman.

As part of Recyclemania!, the Environmental Coordinator's Office held the Trashion Show in Commons last Wednesday. The show featured students wearing fashion designed from "trash." Through promotional events such as the Trashion Show, the Environmental Coordinator's Office hopes to inspire more students to participate in the effort to recycle.



Data represents statistics as of week five of the competition.

SENIOR THESIS SPOTLIGHT

CHRISTINE ARSNOW
STAFF WRITER

Senior Kate Harmsworth-Morrissey is a double major in French and history. Her strong French background influenced her history thesis, which compares media representation of the Rwandan genocide in French and U.S. newspapers over the past 14 years.

Harmsworth-Morrissey first became interested in the Rwandan genocide during her semester abroad in Grenoble, France, last fall. In Grenoble, Harmsworth-Morrissey took a course on the aftermath of French colonization and noticed that "the French paint a glossed-over version of African colonization." When she returned to campus, Harmsworth-Morrissey took a French seminar on the Rwandan Genocide, which further piqued her interest in the subject.

After the seminar, Harmsworth-Morrissey was moved to pursue peace-keeping efforts in Rwanda. She and two other Bates students received a Kathryn Wasserman Davis Grant, part of a fund that Davis established on her 100th birthday called "100 Projects for Peace." Students from 85 colleges competed for grants to "design their own grass roots projects for peace that they themselves will implement anywhere in the world" (www.kwd100projectsforpeace.org). Harmsworth-Morrissey and the two other students traveled to Rwanda in the summer of 2007 to work the Gitagata Center for Street Children, an orphanage filled with children who had been left parentless by the genocide.

The Bates students' grant proposal outlined a photography project for the Rwandan children that would allow

Harmsworth-Morrissey Studies History of Representation of Rwandan Genocide in Leftist French and U.S. Newspapers

them to express their creativity in a medium that was not usually available to them. Upon their arrival, however, the Rwandan government informed the students that they would not be allowed to take photographs at the Center. "The Rwandan government wanted to portray a certain image of the Center," Harmsworth-Morrissey said, "and wanted to have control over that image."

This experience made Harmsworth-Morrissey wonder more about international media portrayal of the Rwandan genocide. Though Rwanda was a Belgian colony, France was a powerful influence in the country and the negative aftershocks of colonial rule still trouble the nation today. It is believed that the French supported Rwanda's president Juvenal Habyarimana, whose Hutu regime established a foundation for the genocide. Extremist members of Habyarimana's government instigated the genocide when the president's plane was shot down in April 1994. Harmsworth-Morrissey knew that "much African violence [that arises in the aftermath of colonialism] is attributed to tribalism" and decided to compare French newspaper coverage of the genocide to U.S. newspaper coverage to investigate the extent to which the French government skewed details and misplaced blame in the Rwandan genocide.

Harmsworth-Morrissey chose four leftist newspapers from each country. She made selections based on newspapers with which she is familiar from her semester abroad and her reading in the U.S. She decided to pick all leftist newspapers to keep the comparison as simple as possible.

Harmsworth-Morrissey investigated three aspects of the genocide. She

first looked at President Habyarimana's plane crash in April 1994, the event that incited Hutu extremists to begin the genocide. She also examined anti-Christian acts during the genocide (such as battles within churches) which the French media may have used to emphasize the tribal nature of the conflict. Finally, Harmsworth-Morrissey looked at Operation Turquoise, a French initiative to establish a relief station for genocide victims on the border of Zaire.

"These camps were controversial," Harmsworth-Morrissey explained, "because a number of Hutus flocked to them, making the tribe that instigated the genocide appear to be victims." Harmsworth-Morrissey added that Operation Turquoise was also controversial because the "French government had a dubious involvement in the genocide aftermath as a result of their supposed support of President Habyarimana."

After carefully reading and analyzing articles about the genocide, Harmsworth-Morrissey determined that neither "country of origin, nor historical/political leaning [of a particular newspaper] dictated its treatment of the genocide." She did find, however, that some newspapers changed their attitude towards the genocide as time went on. For example, Harmsworth-Morrissey found that "the Washington Post was initially critical of the French government because of its previous involvement [in President Habyarimana's regime] but became more accepting over time." Despite her findings, Harmsworth-Morrissey believes that one "must be wary of the sources [she] is consulting, because there may be motives behind what is being reported. Often an event is more complex than [the media] makes it out to be."

3 "PEAP" Grants to Fund Faculty Teaching Projects Involving Community

TOM FLANAGAN
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Three Bates faculty members have received a total of \$11,223 in Publicly Engaged Academic Project (PEAP) grants from the Harvard Center for Community Partnerships. The recipients are Myron Beasley, Visiting Assistant Professor of American Cultural Studies and African American Studies, Carol Dilley, Assistant Professor of Dance and Mike Retelle, Professor of Geology.

The PEAP grants offer substantial financial support to Bates faculty and staff that will facilitate "publicly engaged teaching, research, cultural and other community projects."

According to the Harvard Center's website, the grant's possible uses include but are not limited to transportation, publication or presentation of findings or results and stipends and salaries for support staff and "special skills" staff.

Each of the selected faculty members made a specific project proposal, and their projects are as diverse as their fields of expertise. However, the projects are linked by their commitment to moving the Bates education beyond the borders of campus while simultaneously incorporating the local community, culture and landscape.

"The diversity of the projects funded by these grants underscores the creativity with which Bates faculty link public engagement to their teaching, research and artistic work... The range of publicly engaged

academic work represented in these grants is impressive," said David Scobey, director of the Harvard Center, in a recent press release.

Professor Beasley's project is a Short Term course called "What Androscoggin County Eats." The course strives to examine cross-cultural foodways in the area and will present a "performative meal" in conjunction with Museum L/A.

Professor Dilley earned her grant for "FAB: Franco-American Bates Dance Showcase," a performance that will be co-produced by the Bates dance program and the Franco-American Heritage Center. The show will feature dancers from Bates as well other choreographers and presenters from the region.

Professor Retelle was awarded a PEAP grant for his proposed project called "An Environmental Archive of Seawall Beach." This project is focused on climate change and will consist of Bates students and Midcoast conservation advocates teaming up to monitor and research the progressing climate influence on the beaches, dunes and salt marshes near the Bates-Morse Mountain Conservation Area.

Among other characteristics, these projects were selected for the "quality, rigor and feasibility of the proposed work" and the "quality of the collaboration with, or benefit to, the larger community," according to the Harvard Center website.

This is the first of two rounds of grants that will be awarded for 2007-2008.

Roger Williams May Be Demolished as Part of Next Construction Phase

MATT MARIENTHAL
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR



The Bates College Student Government passed legislation at Monday night's meeting allowing them to re-elect the Vice President of Student Clubs. Previously, only club leaders had the opportunity to vote in these elections. This was problematic because it was deemed a poor representation of the student body, and many representatives voted twice because they are leaders of more than one club. With the new legislation, the entire student body is able to vote in the election. Nominations for the election will be accepted starting tomorrow, and elections will be held next week.

Several committees also gave brief updates. The Architecture Selection Committee chose an architect to re-design the Bill and Hedge next year. It is a firm from New Hampshire. The Selection Committee urged student involvement "if they care what happens with Hedge and the Bill," said Student Body President Paul Suiter '09.

The Bill may or may not be torn down, and student input could strongly influence this decision. The R.A. will likely form a student committee concerning the issue in the near future. The selected architect firm does not currently have any concrete plans.

The Committee on Committees was able to fill all of their positions, and they will present to the R.A. next week. Last, President Paul Suiter will be speaking with Security in order to attempt to hold the parking lottery before next Friday.

Commencement Speakers

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Yu has written a significant number of articles on classical Chinese poetry, comparative literature and literary theory. She is also the author or editor of five books, including "The Reading of Imagery in the Chinese Poetic Tradition" and "The Poetry of Wang Wei."

In 2007, she was awarded the William Riley Parker Prize for the best article in the PMLA, the journal of literary scholarship of the Modern Language Association. She has also earned fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities and the American Council

of Learned Societies.

She serves as an elected member of the Committee of 100, a national non-partisan organization composed of Chinese Americans who have achieved positions of leadership, which addresses important issues concerning the Chinese-American community and issues affecting U.S.-China relations.

She serves on the board of trustees of both the National Humanities Center and the Asian Cultural Council. She also serves on the board of overseers of Harvard University, the board of directors of the Teagle Foundation and the Scholars' Council of the Library of Congress.

Short Term Alternatives

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

bers are understandably protective of their time over Short Term," explained Reese.

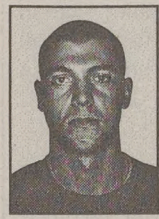
"There is always an ongoing common expression about the efficiency of Short Term... critiquing the ways it doesn't work well," Reese said.

In response to that, the College encourages students with any ideas to share them. Noted Reese, "There are always opportunities for rich conversation of how Short Term can be utilized."

FORUM

The Bates Student

Looking Ahead to the Unknown



JOHN MILEY
MANAGING FORUM
EDITOR

On a ride home this weekend I realized that the most of who I am today is because of two things: education and parenting. This dual mode of development has pushed me forward through 22 years of life. It has led me here, writing this article instead of doing homework, wondering what I will ever do for a job.

The drive home for me is three hours, and I've done it countless times. But this time, the drive triggered the memory of the first time I came up with my dad. A little over four years ago, the drive seemed strange and the three hours lasted much longer. It's funny how familiarity with a place, after four years, can completely change the way you see it.

Sportswriters call it parity, believers in destiny call it fate, literary theorists call it irony, but I just call it pretty neat. There was something fitting about the drive home on Friday, as the semester screeches to a frantic close. I remembered how I felt the first time, how alien everything was way back, when I needed a map to navigate Bates.

Looking back, it's easy to think about how my life could have been different if I didn't end up here. The good thing is that I only think about how it would have been worse, not better, if I didn't end up here at Bates. Sometimes people criticize Bates, unhappy with the policies, the facilities or our social life. These people forget our distinct ability to party in the hallways, something that most other schools are unable, or simply unwilling, to do. The one thing I've always been unable to criticize is the academics. The education has changed the way I think about things and really made me who I am today.

The next step is using this education in the workforce. There's no doubt we have something special here; the only issue is where my abilities – whatever they are – will take me into the future, (off in the distance, someone hears Andy Richter saying, “the future, Conan?”). I just need to take everything I learned and pour it into some profession. It's a scary thing to consider. My dream used to be to somehow find a way to model for J.C. Penney's line of active wear. Now that I have a good education, I have moved beyond that.

I have this feeling that I need to live up to the education I have received, and modeling khaki shorts and cotton tees just won't cut it. I'm nervous about the future, but I'm also excited and confident. That confidence comes from what I've taken away from Bates. I am almost capable of having a normal conversation with other people.

This education hasn't been easy and it hasn't been given to me. I've spent hours reading and re-reading books, try-

ing not to take anything for granted. I've been in the library so many hours that at this point I've developed an aversion to the place. I throw up right when I walk in. The only good part of the library now is the underrated, or perhaps widely unknown, movie and popular music collection.

Going home always gives me some perspective on life. Sometimes I get stuck in a rut at Bates so that just driving off-campus feels liberating. The journey brings me to the other half of my development: parenting.

My parents have always given me the best advice. Every time my dad left the house, he would always tell me, “If the phone rings, answer it.” Words to live by. My mom's advice would be somewhat more complex. She wanted me to stop leaving dishes around the house and throwing my clothes everywhere. Trying to live in a single with dishes and clothes everywhere has proven to me that she may have been onto something.

My dad told a particularly insightful story this weekend at Easter dinner, a story that sums up life as I know it. When he was three years old he watched the beloved television show “Howdy Doody.” One of the characters was a puppet, who looked sort of like the Loch Ness Monster. His name was Flub-a-Dub. My dad had nightmares that this puppet bit his rear end. At night, he would run to his mother's bedside, crying and yelling, “Flub-a-dub bit my bum!” The nightmares didn't subside until he was nine years old. Life is like that puppet – our friend – Flub-a-dub. It's a strange puppet who, when you're not looking, wants to bite you right in the bum.

What am I qualified to do at this point? It's a difficult question, even with the knowledge of how well a Bates education and parental advice has served me over the years. It's sort of a Hegelian dialectic: thesis, antithesis and then synthesis. The thesis, being the parenting I have received, the antithesis being my Bates education, and the synthesis being the job I get as I move forward.

As long as I survive the violent disreputation of this dialectical mode of thought, I should be on my way to understanding the zeitgeist of all of human history before I know it. At the very least, I'll land a job somewhere.

In any case, while I fall asleep each night for the rest of the school year, I'll be thinking about the future and wondering where my education and parenting will eventually take me. I'll think about how much I respect Bates College and enjoy the city of Lewiston. I'll think about how my parents have inspired me and taught me what it means to be a compassionate person.

And each night, right before I drift off into the unknown darkness of sleep, I'll do one more thing: look around my bed one more time for that creep, Flub-a-Dub.

True Life: I am an Insomniac



MARIAM ALAM
ASSISTANT FORUM
EDITOR

So, as I am writing this article, it is 4:32 a.m. Why am I writing an article at 4:32 a.m., you ask? Good question. Beats me. I'm not frantically trying to make a deadline or anything like that. I just simply can't sleep, and I would rather provide you with an educational experience on the life of an insomniac than continue to watch Tyra Banks define “fierce” on “America's Next Top Model” on YouTube (don't judge, everyone has their guilty pleasures).

My foray into the wonderful world of insomnia began approximately one year ago. While I will admit to being a mildly neurotic person, stress was not the initial cause of my inability to sleep. No, it was actually my stomach that was causing the problem. The emptiness of my stomach, to be exact. I was hungry. All the time. At that point in my life, unlike now, I did not consider climbing the Carnegie stairs to be my exercise for the day. Running a couple of miles a day, I sustained myself by constantly packing food in my mouth to the point where people probably thought I had an overeating disorder. But my dependence on pasta and protein (and cookies, and chicken patties, and Chinese food...) did not prove to be enough for my suddenly high metabolic rate. Even if I ate a pre-bedtime snack, I would wake up starving at around 3 a.m., willing to go to any end to satiate myself. My hunger plagued me, night after night. In an attempt to limit my room-

mate's exposure to my Mr. Hyde-like urges, I began tying a bag of bread to my bed so as not to wake her during my midnight forages. But my late-night feeding was only the start of my problem.

After I temporarily quelled my stomach's constant need for attention, I could not fall back asleep. I tried everything – counting sheep, Facebook stalking, you name it. Once I woke up, I was wide awake, usually for about two hours, giving me just about an hour or two of sleep before my 8 a.m. class. And as exhausted as I was as I sat through class all day, my hunger and insomnia would double-team me again that night. It became habit for me to wake up in the middle of the night, even when my descent into laziness ended my need for midnight snacks. While I tried fighting my insomnia at first (i.e. took sleeping pills), I eventually just accepted it (i.e. my doctor thought my dependence on Ambien was unhealthy).

So what do I do while the rest of the world sleeps? Well, there are some surprising benefits to being an insomniac. Like many college students, I often don't finish all of my schoolwork before I go to bed at night. But, I can tell myself that I am not being irresponsible because I have time to do it at 3 a.m. (usually Tyra Banks wins out over studying, but hey, it's the thought that counts). And if you take frequent naps in the middle of the day, at least you have an excuse for your laziness (“But, I didn't get any sleep last night!” Seriously, that is probably my most frequently-spoken phrase). Plus, there is some great TV on at 3 a.m. – check out the Lifetime original movie “She's Too Young.” Heartwarming.

And, while I am a little too scared of Lewiston in the middle of the night to leave my house, I have had quite a few insomniac excursions in the comfort of my Connecticut hometown (don't tell my mom). Let me just tell you, there is a reason that the people who are at the grocery store at four in the morning don't do their shopping in the middle of the day. Watch out for the creepers in the vegetable aisle in particular – they spend way too long feeling tomatoes to see if they are ripe. But besides the dangers of all the bad guys who only come out at night, I recommend leaving the house to all insomniacs, chronic or occasional. First of all, driving around in the middle of the night really adds to the dark, brooding, melancholy look that all insomniacs have the potential to achieve (note: black clothing is really what does the trick. And the two-inch bags under your eyes.).

Plus, I find that once I get behind the wheel of a car when it is dark outside, I almost instantly fall asleep. Of course, this is not great when I am making the five-hour trip from home to school, but it certainly comes in handy at three in the morning. Other, more normal, strategies for getting to bed? Find a mildly boring book and keep it by your bedside at all times. Make sure the book is not too horrible, because then you probably won't pay attention long enough to fall asleep. Or, try keeping a playlist of sleep-inducing music. Surprisingly, showers really work for me, too. Something about standing up for that long really drains my energy. And if you get really desperate, at least you now know that there is someone else out there, in search of some entertainment when I should be sleeping.

The Indifference of Liberalism

AFROZ BAIG
STAFF WRITER

When was the last time you met someone at Bates who enjoyed the Bush Presidency? Here is a better one: when was the last time you met someone who thought the “War on Terror” or the occupation of Iraq was a smart decision? Takes quite a bit of thinking, right? Aside from the handful of “conservatives” who linger about campus, it is safe to say a majority of Bates students consider themselves “liberals” and tend to agree more with the Democratic Party's current positions on these matters in comparison to those of the Republican Party.

I just attended a vigil for peace and reconciliation in recognition of the fifth anniversary of the Iraq War in the Chapel. To my great surprise there were only about two dozen people present, at best – members of the community, staff, faculty and students.

The entire thing was well put-together, with selected students reading quotes from famous individuals and holy texts about the importance of peace. Candles were lit, and moments of silence were had. However, I couldn't bring myself to understand the turn-out.

I think sometimes when you attend an educational institution where “liberalism” is the norm, it is easy to forget what a fad having certain opinions can be. It reminds me of the time in the fourth grade when I bought the NSync CD because my best friend was in love with them. Don't get me wrong, I fully enjoyed listening to hits like “Dirty Pop” on repeat, but if the band decided to stop producing more hits I would not

have been one of the nine-year-olds crying about it. I'm not in any way comparing my love for bad boy bands to the War in Iraq – there is much more on the line when we talk about a war and I would never want to disrespect those who have sacrificed and have lost in this war. However, I am saying this – there is a reason why only about 12 Bates students thought that it was an important enough anniversary to sacrifice 45 minutes of their day to attend.

Now, maybe I should give the benefit of the doubt to all those who didn't attend. After all, it was a Wednesday and we have roughly two weeks of classes left before we spring into finals. Somehow it seems to me that when I'm sitting in the library and the person next to me is Facebooking, those 45 minutes pass like the breeze.

I'm not writing this with the intent of guilt-tripping anyone to feel some sort of emotion about the fact that our country's been at war for five years, or that thousands of lives on both sides have been lost in the process. I am writing to put an end to the “liberalism” fad. All are entitled to carry out their beliefs in a manner that they see fit, but what is the point of having a belief or opinion if your actions don't reflect it? I think that can go in the category of the question, “if a tree falls in the forest and no one hears it, did it really fall?” Maybe it is easier to agree with popular opinion during our years at Bates when we live inside this thing commonly referred to as the “Bates bubble” – when the outside world is just that, outside and detached.

A friend that I went to the vigil with made an interesting comment. She said, “If this were for the Vietnam War this

place would be packed.” I couldn't agree with her more. Maybe it's our “academic pursuits” that hold us back from acting on our beliefs like the students of Freedom Summer who helped in the Civil Rights Movement – most of us worked hard to get to Bates, and are still working hard, so what are the merits of pouring energy into national causes that seem to have no definitive answer? Or maybe the answer is a lot simpler than that – maybe we've all lost touch. In this day and age when CNN.com is updated every five minutes with new pictures from the front lines, maybe it is easier to “have an opinion” but be completely detached from the situation emotionally and physically.

Most of us are willing to have our ideas and opinions about the world but those don't translate into action until our “bubble,” our way of life, is affected. Our counterparts from the '60s were marching for causes that affected their lives directly – whether or not to take action wasn't the question, the form of the action was the debated topic. However, that doesn't excuse the idleness that I witnessed, either. No matter what your stance on the war, one thing remains a truth – war results in casualties. If anything, the vigil served as an opportunity to remember those on both sides of the line – politics didn't have to be a part of it. But maybe that's the bigger point in all of this – showing up to acknowledge the emotional aspect of this war would entail having a connection to it of some sort. In the end, it will always be easier to remain distant until we are directly affected and forced to act.

The Bates Student

The Newspaper of Bates College Since 1873

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Obama's Inspirational Candor

ROB FRIEDLANDER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On Tuesday, March 18, Senator Barack Obama delivered one of the most elegant, sweeping addresses on the role of race in American life by a politician in recent history. Remarkable for its candor and truly historic in both nuance and scope, Senator Obama again demonstrated himself to be one of the most inspirational and courageous leaders in his generation. The speech, entitled “A More Perfect Union,” knit together personal anecdotes, painful history, a call to individual responsibility and the prospect of optimism in a way that spoke to all Americans and that set a new tone for discussions of race in American life. I urge anyone who hasn't watched or read it to do so.

Assuredly, there are those who will continue to deride Senator Obama for his reliance on soaring rhetoric and speeches. They may acknowledge his

ability to connect with people yet dismiss his words as hollow. This line of argument is simply untenable and shows a fundamental unwillingness to acknowledge the gravity of words.

In his speech, Senator Obama conceded that the racial tensions that exist in our country will not be assuaged in a single election cycle or with one new candidate. He, more than anyone, knows that his words alone will not bridge the racial gaps in our country. But this is where his detractors go astray. They fail to recognize that speeches are not mere strings of words that exist in isolation; they are catalysts of real, meaningful change. It is difficult to imagine anyone characterizing Thomas Jefferson's Declaration, King's dream, or JFK's call as “just words.” The appropriate measure of the value of a speech is not simply the applause that it prompts; it is the action and change that it inspires and its ability to rally people around a common purpose.

This is precisely what Barack Obama has done in this speech and throughout his entire campaign. He asks all of us to recognize the racial prejudices we have lingering in our minds and to work together to overcome them; he calls on us to move beyond our cynicisms and to work for the America that we know is possible. Barack Obama has strived for this future his entire adult life, as a community organizer on the streets of Chicago, to the Illinois State Senate, to the United States Senate, and now as a presidential candidate. He hasn't simply spoken about change; he has lived it and is inspiring us to do the same.

Few politicians have had the political or moral courage to speak with such candor about one of the most fragile topics in American life. However, this is precisely the type of forthcoming honesty and wisdom that we have come to expect of a candidate that has set a new tone for American politics.

The Columns That You'll Never Read



TOM FLANAGAN
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Ah, my last column in The Student. Most graduating columnists end with a sentimental ramble that vaguely resembles a graduation speech, but instead of looking back over my four years I've decided to explain what I'd do with a fifth. I've got a whole lot of ideas left in the tank, and I'm going to dump them out. Basically, I'm ending my career by serving up a pupu platter of never-to-be-seen columns. Off we go.

I would write about the most dominant mailbox at Bates College: 306. Christian Fleming Pat Flaherty and I constitute a well-rounded multi-talented and more or less invincible mailbox. I'd explain our strengths and offer an open challenge to the campus: any set of box mates, any competition, we're winning. The one exception is Noah Gauthier's mailbox in a 35-pound weight throw; I'm pretty sure he could throw me farther than I could throw that weight. But other than that, bring it on.

I would write about how haggard we look in our ID pictures from four years ago, and why it is that we can't change them. From a purely practical standpoint, some kids look so different from their four-year-old originals that their ID probably doesn't even pass as a second form of identification. From a "for the good of humanity" standpoint, Commons employees have to look at them every day.

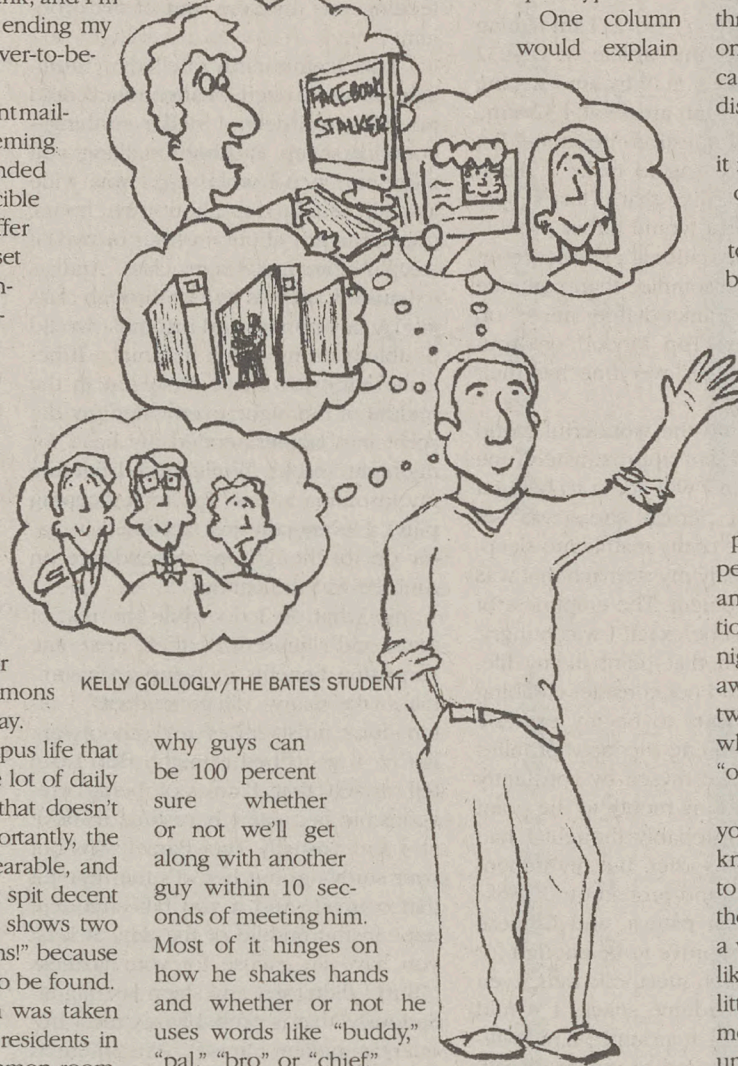
Flirting in the library is a part of campus life that I would discuss, because there's a whole lot of daily and nightly work being done in Ladd that doesn't involve books or computers. More importantly, the lines that get dropped are usually unbearable, and I think the setting is to blame. You can't spit decent game while standing under a sign that shows two hungry bugs saying "damn those librarians!" because strict food policies have left no crumbs to be found.

I'd also write about why my futon was taken from our common room. There are 22 residents in my house but only six seats in the common room, and since we can't have cable in our bedrooms (actually, that's its own, furious column) we have to watch TV as a family. We're not bashful about squeezing, oh, six or seven guys on a couch, but the futon definitely helped. Unfortunately, I was told by Physical Plant that the futon created an extra burden on the housekeeping staff, and that while it wasn't causing problems in my building, the College doesn't want campus common rooms to become littered with personal furniture. So, I guess taking our futon quelled a revolution of sorts. Maybe I'm just an idiot, but this policy seems flawed.

I've wanted to explore the differences between someone who is book-smart, someone who is street-smart, and someone who is a complete moron. I would also speculate as to how many of each we have here on campus based on various events I've witnessed here over the years (hint: picture a pyramid). An underclassman should write this one, it'd be funny.

Here's a scary one: I'd speculate what would happen if Facebook created an application that allowed you to see who has looked at your profile and pictures, and how many times they've done so. How many car accidents would there be as all the guys fled campus? Would it just be understood that a vat of lethal Kool-Aid would be present at a guys-only party that night? Facebook claims that this application will never exist for privacy reasons, but I think it will never exist because it would initiate the apocalypse.

One column would explain



KELLY GOLLOGLY/THE BATES STUDENT

why guys can be 100 percent sure whether or not we'll get along with another guy within 10 seconds of meeting him. Most of it hinges on how he shakes hands and whether or not he uses words like "buddy," "pal," "bro" or "chief." There's definitely sociology thesis here somewhere.

I'd also write about the god-like power you feel when you distribute beverages at a party. The task forces you to form a definite, single-file ranking of how much you like everyone in your life, even those within your inner circle. It's a fascinating self-test.

I once wrote about the four typecast roles within a group project, and I'd like to explain the five characters in the typical small discussion class. You've got the kid who knows everything except when to shut up, the senior major who wishes the professor didn't know he was a senior major, the over-enthused underclassmen, the under-enthused upperclassmen, and the empty chair. I wish I could elaborate.

I'd write about watching our parents stagger reluctantly into the technology age. I'd ponder why it is that they sign text messages as if they were e-mails and have full conversations with our away messages and then become annoyed, thinking that we're sitting there and typing "lunch then class" in response

to everything they say.

Here's an important one: I'd write about why I don't hate Bowdoin, Colby, or anyone else in NES-CAC. Our rivalries seem contrived and ridiculous to me since most of us applied everywhere, and if it weren't for the whims of various Admissions offices we could be somewhere else wearing "Buck Fates!" T-shirts on Saturday afternoons. It's bizarre.

It'd be fun to write about how it is that areas on campus retain such distinct cultures and well-defined stereotypes even though new students rotate through here every four years. Will all the jocks live on Frye St. someday? Will the allure of wall-to-wall carpets eventually make J.B. a barefoot hippy paradise? I'm fascinated by this.

I'd love to write about how funny and awesome it is when someone's phone goes off in class, especially if they have a bizarre or embarrassing ring tone. I would then discuss the following: if I had to have my phone ring loudly in class, what would be the best, worst and funniest ring tones for me to have? I think the best would be "Gimme Shelter" by the Rolling Stones, the worst would be "Yeah" by Usher, and the funniest would be "My Heart Will Go On" by Celine Dion.

I'd weigh in on the tradition that says everyone should have sex in the library stacks before graduation because frankly, I'd be surprised if every senior had sex before graduation, period. But in the library stacks? That's insane. Does anyone actually do this? And why is it casually mentioned along with the Puddle Jump and spending a night on Mt. David as if it's no big deal? And how awkwardly hilarious would it be to stumble across two people completing this task? I think it'd be somewhere between "stop, my throat hurts" hilarious and "oh my god, I'm crapping my pants" hilarious.

I haven't won anything, so I'd never write a thank you/shout-out column, but I do want to quickly acknowledge anyone who has ever taken the time to tell me they enjoyed one of my columns (even those who did so while completely sauced and in a way that made me mildly uncomfortable). Writing like this has been a lot of fun but it was always a little scary as well, so your encouraging words have meant a great deal to me. Over the years my columns have included more than 50,000 words, many of them sarcastic, so I hope you'll believe me when I say that these two couldn't be more sincere: thank you.

Last, I would tell a story that I haven't told anyone yet, which is odd because I rarely shut up. As I passed Admissions early one morning, a girl and her mother came out, clearly prospecting (let's make this the new word for visiting campus). The mother stopped me and said, "Quick, our minds aren't made up: what's the best thing about Bates College?" I was 90 percent asleep and couldn't produce a witty or cynical response, so I just blurted out the first answer that came to mind: "the people." This was a knee-jerk response, but I've thought about it since and I'm sticking with it. I won't get sentimental here, but really, I've never come across such an ensemble of genuinely enjoyable, unique and brilliantly hilarious human beings in my life. There are surely things that Bates needs to fix, but the quality of the people it enrolls and employs is not one of them. It's been a pleasure.

Digits

168

Points scored by the Denver Nuggets during a game on March 16. The total was a club record for the NBA team. The Seattle Super-sonics lost the game, scoring only 116 points.

29

Points scored by Mississippi Valley State in the first round of the NCAA men's basketball tournament. The Delta Devils lost to the UCLA Bruins, 70-29.

41

Percentage of people who will use their tax rebate money to pay for bills, according to a CNN Research Poll. The rebates, designed to stimulate the economy, are part of a \$170 billion stimulus package signed by Congress last month. The poll also found that 32 percent will put the money in savings, 21 percent will spend the money and three percent will donate the money to charity.

48,600,000

Amount of money, in dollars, awarded to Heather Mills in a recent divorce settlement. The former wife of Paul McCartney, Mills asked for \$251 million. The amount awarded fell short of the record divorce settlement of \$96 million which was handed down in Britain last year.

4,000

Total number of deaths in Iraq after five years after 4 United States soldiers were found killed by a roadside bombing Sunday night. 3,263 of these deaths were combat-related, with the other 727 deaths being the result of non-hostile events, such as suicide and traffic accidents.

55

Number of concrete blocks smashed in 4.86 seconds, breaking the previous world record of 17.49 seconds. Ed Byrnes, a Cornish strongman and karate expert, broke the blocks with his bare hands.

10

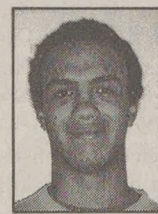
Number of days, for Bates College, until classes officially end. Finals begin on April 8 and end on April 12. Students hoping to finish a thesis and those hoping to catch up on reading are quickly running out of time.

2

Number of movies that will be made for the final Harry Potter book. The two movies for "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows" are set to be released on November 2010 and May 2011. The movie franchise, which will end up being 8 films, has currently pulled in \$4.5 billion dollars at the worldwide box office.

CNN.com, ESPN.com, ananova.com

Claiming Your Education and Your Life



FABIO PERIERA
COLUMNIST

Let's be honest: college is sometimes not all it's cracked up to be. As much as four years can be filled with memories of hanging out with friends and parties, road trips and travel abroad, college can also be a time of depression and insecurity, of groping blindly ahead in the hope of success and achievement – without fully appreciating what success and achievement really mean or are really worth.

The transition between adolescence and adulthood does not end with graduation; it carries on for some time afterwards. It is not an easy one – learning to care for oneself, maturing to appreciate the complexities of life and accepting responsibility for one's failures as much as one's successes. No one likes the grinding feeling in one's stomach, the thudding recognition that a best effort was not enough, or the feeling that one has royally screwed up. But there it is, life presents us with suffering and hardship in many forms and the best we can do is just that. We can like it or lump it, and hopefully learn from it.

There are a great many things I wish I had known five years ago when I started college (I took a year off, a decision I will return to momentarily). They were not the things my parents told me or the things I read in all the college guidebooks, but home truths I had to learn for myself.

One of the things is learning to be wrong and to accept criticism. Being so young, we're all susceptible to defending what little accomplishment or belief we have mustered thus far. We're too afraid that being wrong means losing it all, or being critiqued means the effort itself was worthless. We cling to political beliefs or personal causes or ideologies without criticizing them for fear of critically assessing ourselves. It is a hard behavior to unlearn; seeing shades of grey means recognizing the level of reasonable doubt that runs through everything, even our own abilities.

There are so many moments when we will be wrong ahead of each and every one of us, so much learning that what we thought to be true yesterday was, in fact, not so. The more we can let those ideas die and accept being wrong or critiqued – graciously – the easier it is to recognize when we're right and have done something worth pride. Screwing up, being wrong is not the end of the world and the grace with which we accept these occurrences will only make the next effort that much better.

When I was a junior I botched an attempt to transfer and, instead, took a year off. It was the best year of my life because it taught me that I could survive. I chose to move, without parental support, to another country – to make a home for myself, with the little money I had and to figure it out, no safety net. I do not regret it; the struggle brought me opportunities – to work for good companies, to get the kind of experience that my peers would have to look forward to. It made me hungry for life, and forced me to be my best advocate, to know what made me happy.

Have you ever fired someone, took away his or her ability to earn a living? I have. It sucks, the feeling of nausea and shame I will never forget. But it taught me how to make hard calls, how to evaluate the evidence in front of me and assess potential and failure – my own and others'. The lesson is transferable – to make the call to transfer colleges when one is not happy, or to realize that a friendship or relationship is more trouble than it's worth. Or to call bullshit when you see it and stick to your guns even when people around you – your employees, your friends, your peers – won't like you for doing so.

The struggle of living on my own was worth it, the failure turned into a grand opportunity that has put me in a position now to have real options after graduation. For those of you reading this who feel your Bates experience is not holding up, I recommend transferring or taking time off from college. Part of "claiming an education," as Adrienne Rich famously put it, is recognizing when you need a time out or when the environment is more prohibitive than constructive.

If you decide time off is what you need, don't sit at home. Go somewhere new; a new city somewhere, and do something that will add value to your life and your time away. And if you decide Bates is not for you, then transfer; four years is a long-short time; upon reflection it goes by quickly, but it can stretch out in front of you endlessly if you're not happy. And that's not worth it, because life is short.

I guess what I'm trying to say is that every day should be an opportunity to conquer your fears – fears of inadequacy, of being wrong, of being different, of being not-enough, of what lies ahead, of what has come to pass. To be able to stand alone, fear conquered, is greater than to stand in fear with others.

I came to Bates with ideas about what college would be like and where I would be after I graduated. None of it has come to pass; something else has happened and it has been in turns marvelous, painful, extraordinary, dull, average, enlightening and

hard. Learning to embrace my fears and overcome the human aversion to change has been greatly rewarding.

Of course, these are my experiences and the things you learn will likely be different. You may, for instance, need to learn that your ideas are worth something when you've been told all your life you were wrong. That too has value; that too means overcoming fears and assumptions that have become your beliefs about yourself and your future.

So, to you I wish you the strength to claim your education – to claim your life and overcome that which will inevitably come in your way. At the end of the day, only you have to live with you. As Mama Cass put it, "You've gotta make your own kind of music, sing your own special song, make your own kind of music, even if nobody else sings along."

Bates Rates

Another year without a perfect bracket



Mine has Bates in the Final Four.

Time running out to buy Gala outfit



Make your trip to Salvation Army for a \$15 suit or \$3 mini-skirt.

Friday's wind storm and power outages



"Um, Professor? You're not going to believe this...."

Enjoying the Easter Bunny



Nothing gets me going like an old-fashioned egg hunt.

ARTS & LIVING

The Bates Student

"The Shape of Things" Boasts Inventive and Comedic Direction

ANDREW WILCOX
ASSISTANT ARTS & LIVING EDITOR

An art student in search of a culminating thesis, Evelyn (played by Victoria Libby '08) is a deeply contradictory, self-righteous artsy type. She is confident, shrewd and aware of her sex appeal. It is an unfortunate fate that leads her to Adam (David Brustlin '08) – a quiet, less confident lover of literature who is completely unprepared for Evelyn's dominance.

The two meet at a museum where Adam works. Evelyn seeks to graffiti a famous sculpture, claiming it is "false" art. Adam hopelessly attempts to stop her. The relationship unfolds wherein Evelyn slowly but surely dictates major changes in Adam's appearance and personal life, instilling a position of "guidance" by calling him "Grasshopper." Phillip (Timothy Fox '11), Adam's dearest friend and confidant, takes exception to the loss of the buddy he once knew – a familiar face becoming more and more distant after a new hair style, nose job, new jacket and the trading of glasses for contacts. Adam even sides with Evelyn now – something has gone terribly wrong.

After scandalous kisses (and more...) between Adam and Phillip's girlfriend Jenny (Sophie Mann '08), and between the vengeful Phillip and Evelyn, the play officially comes to the crux of the issue. At Evelyn's art show,



Students perform an evening of independent theater projects for the "Advanced Play Direction" class.

she publicly admits to manipulating Adam as her art thesis project. She flaunts her "artistic" ability to change his world and those of people surrounding him. She molded him, merely for the sake of "art." What a message this sends, especially in today's metropolitan world where the nature of art is continuously mistaken by phrases like "anything can be art." This is not so, according to "The Shape of Things." As Adam said, when Picasso excreted he did not see a sculpture.

Picasso knew the difference between that and art, and that is what made him Picasso.

"The Shape of Things" is junior Sulochana Dissanayake's first full-length production as a director. Dissanayake impressively intertwined humor and palling conflict – two elements imaginably difficult to evenly place in the same context. She intuitively found the deeper moral of the play and let it bloom throughout each scene. Though character development

is largely the job of the actor, Dissanayake must be credited for the ceaselessly clever way that characters and plot were developed through timing, placement and vibe. All who saw the play will certainly look for more from Dissanayake.

The actors shared a comfortable chemistry. Libby took on the Cruella DeVille archetype consistently and frighteningly. She portrays someone we all felt we knew and could not stand. She was sharp, opinionated and frustrating, accompanying Phillip as the other stern personality in the play.

As for Brustlin's performance, Evan from "Superbad" rings a bell. He was dorky, quick-witted and awkward – a character one couldn't help but love, one with whom we all may commiserate.

Fox portrayed Phillip naturally and vivaciously, emitting Phillip's frustration with a metamorphosed friend and his disloyal girlfriend, Jenny. Despite rising anger, Fox simultaneously played the most forwardly comedic role in the play. His inventiveness, idiosyncratic movements and knack for timing called for major applause on his behalf.

Mann, with Brustlin, played the other vulnerable character in the play. She did a fine job presenting a distressed, paranoid and twitchy opposite to Phillip and Evelyn.

Affordable
Comfort-Food
with No FrillsLAURA BAUGHMAN
STAFF WRITER

As I stepped into Edward's Restaurant and beheld its clientele (whose median age appeared to be around 75), I worried that the cuisine wouldn't appeal to my 20-ish-year-old friends and me. However, I was soon reminded of the draw that no-frills comfort food has on those of all ages. This diner – complete with bar stools and an antique milkshake machine – offers a selection of all-time favorites ranging from burgers and fries to several varieties of pies to daily specials like "boiled New England dinnah." While the plaza in which it resides is borderline decrepit and definitely rustic, Edward's deserves a visit if you're looking for a true diner experience.

After chatting with our warm and friendly waitress, I decided to sample one of the specials of the day: homemade pea soup. What was delivered to our table was a piping hot, surprisingly rich and filling creation that was delectable when paired with saltine crackers. Next came a hot chicken sandwich, my artery-clogging answer to another day of March's snowy weather. Doused in gravy, the sandwich's tender meat was flavorful, but I was disappointed by the mashed potatoes, whose cement-like texture made me suspect that they came out of a box.

Nevertheless, the meal and its absurdly cheap pricetag lifted me out of my winter gloom. My friends enjoyed their choices as well; most notable was the cheese omelet, which while a bit thin was filled abundantly with cheese

Edward's Restaurant



760 Main St.
Lewiston, ME 04240

and was delectable paired with toast, lettuce and tomato. The quarter pound cheeseburger was juicy, tasty and topped with fresh veggies. The tuna salad sandwich was also delicious but lacked in the logistics area – falling apart far too easily, it had to be eaten with a knife and fork. All these meals came with a modest side of accordion French fries, crisped to perfection.

Although I was stuffed to the point of pain after my hot chicken sandwich, I decided to make a sacrifice for The Student and forced myself to order dessert. Edward's offers a wide array of homemade sweets, including an impressive number of pie flavors. Deciding to stray a bit off the beaten path, I went for the homemade bread pudding. Warmed and topped with whipped cream, this gooey bit of heaven was perfectly spiced with cinnamon and accented by raisins. It was quickly devoured by everyone at the table, even by a notoriously picky eater who had previously claimed she did not like bread pudding.

Edward's menu does not have any surprises, but in a way that is its appeal. The restaurant's customers have been loyally coming to this little hole in the wall for decades to get simple, classic meals that do not change from one year to the next. While Edward's will probably not amaze with any of its foods, its prices will: a bowl of soup, a full meal, a large drink and a dessert costs less than \$12. After a meal at Edward's you just might have a few extra pennies to spend when you go shopping at Marden's right next door.

Check out coverage of the
Adrian Blevins poetry reading
and Village Club Series at
www.batesstudent.com



See SEXUAL, page 6

"Picasso at the Lapin Agile" Features Dynamic, Well-Timed Hilarity

ANDREW WILCOX
ASSISTANT ARTS & LIVING EDITOR

The year is 1904. Pablo Picasso (Rufat Hasanov '09) is three years away from painting his masterpiece "Les Femmes d'Alger" and Albert Einstein (Zach Eaton '11) is a year away from publishing his theory on special relativity. The two, on the verge of ameliorated greatness, are in their mid-20s and highly contemplative about the world around them.

Paul Gruner '09 made flawless decisions in his directing. He took advantage of Gannett's open space and a well-crafted set. In a spectacular opening scene presenting Masid Cader '11 as Freddy, a dancing alco-

holic bartender, the audience is made witness to what becomes a wildly entertaining night at the Lapin Agile. The focus is initially put on Einstein, as the lay regulars of the bar (Gaston – Anthony Timberman '09, Germaine – Eliza Read-Brown '11 and Suzanne – Alisa Hamilton '11) are at odds with his practical, seemingly vain character.

Hysterical interactions take place, especially once Picasso enters and he and Einstein engage in tiffs over importance: beauty versus practicality, heart versus head. They raise significant issues like what separates genius from talent, though the answers to these questions are left in moderate ambiguity. Finding common ground, the two – both in search of a way to

save the century – come to respect each other. Picasso goes as far as to use the word envy.

Eventually Matt Paul '09 enters the play as "a visitor" from the future. Though his identity is never affirmed, his appearance and actions imply someone who is most nearly Elvis Presley. He provides a glimpse of the coming 20th century for which Picasso and Einstein so sincerely worry.

The secondary characters are pivotal in "Picasso at the Lapin Agile." Each plays a central role in illuminating human traits; each is eccentric in his or her own way. For example, Timberman's hysterically timed Gaston is an aging man worried of little other than sex and his pipe. Schmendiman (Derek Rocchini '11), a self-pro-

claimed inventor, has little merit behind anything he does, like inventing the dunce cap. Limor Finkel '10 has a short but comedic entrance in which she professes her regret that Picasso isn't Schmendiman, as though Schmendiman is some demigod. While Picasso mirrors art and Einstein represents science, Schmendiman represents a nation bound for the commercial frontier. Sagot (Keven Chambers '09) plays Picasso's art dealer.

The play wraps up as a host of characters in the bar, including Picasso, Einstein and "the visitor," make a toast to change in the 20th century. It was a splendid and moving ending to a well-casted, well-directed and superbly acted play.

Disturbing, Disappointing,
"Doomsday" Lacks CreativitySCOTT PIERCE
STAFF WRITER

When society breaks down due to the Reaper Virus (a friend pointed out the effects are similar to a Bates Saturday night), the survivors in the now-quarantined Scotland create two rival, evil societies.

The first tribe consists of 20-something, multicolored, Mohawk-adorned individuals who are interested in two things: cannibalism and S&M. They may be interested in other things as well – like, let's say, yelling at everything and riding motorcycles covered in human skeletons. However, those and any other interests they seem to possess go hand-in-hand with cannibalism and S&M.

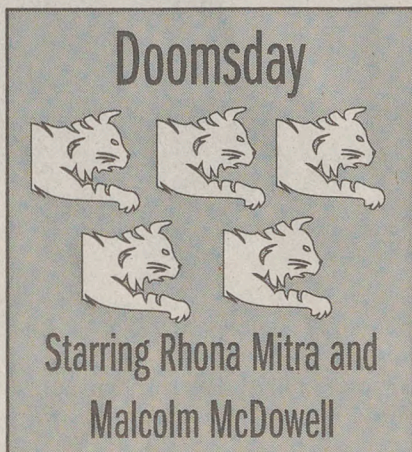
The second society, run by the lead cannibal's father, Kane, is a group consisting of predominately older individuals who revert back to medieval times. For example, King Kane lives in his castle, sitting at a throne surrounded by his pet crows while spouting cryptic, nonsensical garbage. Likewise, his cohorts wear knights' armor.

Eden Sinclair, the heroine of the film, makes her way into Scotland from London to find a cure for the Reaper virus which, after 30 years, has somehow made its way out of the quarantined area. She has a robotic eye which fits her robotic emotions. What ensues is merely the same as playing Mortal Kombat on the Sega Genesis back in 1992. Bodies are left in mutilated piles, plot seems inconsequential and cute furry things explode. It is, after all, only about the fatality.

What makes this film so disappointing is the (potentially former) promise of the director and writer, Neil Marshall. After gaining cult status

with "Dog Soldiers," Marshall proved himself as someone that deserved both cult and critical success with his highly masterful, haunting film "The Descent." The promise of combining suspense, story, human emotion and horror that Marshall eloquently displayed in his previous genre effort is nowhere to be found in this complete mess of a movie.

Marshall's "Doomsday" lives off the images of the predominately 1980s films that inspired it. This is an increasingly disturbing trend of genre directors as of late. I believe the example Marshall has given with this film, along with the many other



genre directors of today that claim "homage" – sometimes more accurately plagiarism – is only proving the lack of creativity among this new pack. Muck may equal box office success for one weekend, but it is not a golden ticket that will cement a new film classic. I hope Marshall is able to get back

on track. This effort, and the efforts of other contemporary genre directors who revel in boring torture, sincerely do not live up to the promises established by individuals like Stanley Kubrick ("The Shining"), Brian de Palma ("Carrie"), Roman Polanski ("Rosemary's Baby"), and even blockbuster creators like James Cameron ("Aliens") and Steven Spielberg ("Jaws"), all of whom have successfully combined horror and science fiction, proving it a viable form of expression and art.

Unabashed Appreciation of Porn

MUNDUNGUS FUDGE
SEX COLUMNIST

Humor me please and try to visualize this scene: a small congregation of students is lounging at the Ronj, some doing homework, others simply enjoying a cup of some socially-acceptable sugar-laden hot liquid that passes for coffee. At some random juncture in a conversation between three gentlemen (let's name them Bert, Ernie and Grover), the subject of porn is covertly introduced. The conversation would go something like this.

Bert: "So, uh, I found this new free porn website randomly the other day" (a note for the reader: if anyone tells you that they've just found this new site, know that they're lying and that they've been visiting it since puberty).

Ernie, quietly so as to not be overheard by his female neighbor, Ms. Piggy: "Oh yeah? I bet I already know which one it is. I'm guessing Redtube.com."

Grover, the awkward one who's feigning ignorance: "How can you guys watch that stuff? It's so gross and fake. Why don't you go and try to hook up with a girl instead of watching it online?" (another note: contrary to his outward demeanor, Grover is a closet porn addict).

Ernie: I've been watching this stuff forever; it never gets old. What website is it anyway?

Bert: Youporn.com. They got all sorts of stuff. Updated every day and everything. Have you seen the one with Taylor Rain in the pool?

Ernie: Yeah, I didn't like that one. I was watching it while I was writing a paper. It didn't do much for me.

The conversation continues between Ernie and Bert. At this point Grover is listening and keeping his mouth shut, not because he is grossed out by the topic at hand, but because he, like some people, thinks his porn-watching tendencies should not breach public conversation. Because Bates is the wonderfully liberal place it is, other people in the Ronj, females included, begin to add their two cents on the matter. Someone has popped up the website on their laptop and girls and guys alike are giggling and saying things like, "How come porn has its own genre of

music?" and "all the guys are really ugly." After the initial awkward part of the conversation is taken care of, people begin to open up about specific porn movies they've seen, favorite actors/ac-



tresses and different websites they've frequented. I've noticed, in my time here at Bates, that scenes like this are not totally uncommon, especially amongst males. I'd like to share a quick story. Back one random afternoon in my freshman year, a few of us (both males and females) decided to sit down in someone's room and watch an entire porno. For those readers not familiar with the structure of porn movies, they go as such: porno's either have a set plot, i.e. "Carmen goes to College" or "Pirates," or the entire movie is comprised of many unrelated sex scenes. If one were to step in an adult bookstore, like Lewiston's own Paris Adult Book Store, or one of the Amazing Video stores, one would find porno in a plethora of genres ranging from one male and one female to any variation on the theme. One could also peruse titles under categories that contain, exclusively, one ethnic group, fetishes, college, amateur, etc.

Now, very few people who watch porn actually watch an entire porn movie. Porn is used, for the most part, as a means to satisfy a certain end (I shant divulge said end, but I'm sure the reader has an idea of what it may be). This all being said, for us to decide to sit down and watch a full length porno was quite a task. What made it all the more awkward was the fact that the men sat on one side and the women on the other. Not much talking was to be heard with the exception of jeers and giggles and witty comments about the appearance and performance of the male and female actors.

The title was "Carmen Goes to College." The young lady who played Carmen was supposed to maintain a strong Latin accent, but like most pornos, the plot and the actual acting dissipated soon after the movie began. While try-

U2 Fans Perplexed by "18 Singles"

ANDREW WILCOX
ASSISTANT ARTS & LIVING EDITOR

U2 doesn't need any sort of compilation album to reinforce their place in music. The band has proven itself by simply not burning out over the decades. Though many strongly dislike Bono, they will find it impossible to deny his significance as a musician. That's what initially made "18 Singles" (Island, 2006) a mystery to me.

A conglomerate of 18 of U2's greatest pieces seems in a way futile – we've all heard them all, even those of us who dislike U2. It seems like a very convenient new release, combining numerous beloved songs in one go-to CD. However, they've already had greatest hit albums, which spanned decades of progress and prestige.

My suspicion is that "18 Singles" is an attempt by U2 to solidify their newer stuff – the more recent songs like "Vertigo" and "Elevation" that never grabbed hold quite like "Sunday Bloody Sunday." Maybe putting them side-by-side with U2's classics will force listeners to familiarize themselves with new songs and make them stand out in a fresher and better way.

Even if the album appears to be a desperate tactic, it does combine the greatest of U2's work (leaving out the "Zooropa" era?). Songs are taken from some of rock 'n' roll's most memorized albums: "The Joshua Tree," "War" and "Boy." And, to increase curiosity, two entirely new releases are strategically placed as the album's last two tracks: "The Saints Are Coming" (recorded with Green Day, aimed at providing hope after Hurricane Katrina) and "Window in the Skies." These make two questionable last tracks, especially "Window in the Skies." U2, or at least Island Records, must've had something specific in mind with this move. The song is distinctly different from and less dignified than classic U2 (comprising the majority of "18 Singles"). For example, where did the Edge's burning guitar riffs go? Why does Bono sound like he stopped chain-smoking cigarettes and started taking Rhyming 101? Why are we supposed to walk away from a "singles" CD keeping in mind this new musical landmark?

To add to the confusion is the album cover – a shot of U2 in Dublin in 1979 at a time when they were just beginning to find their edgy side. My suspicion is the same as before, the fans are being tempted to view new tunes like "Window in the Skies" with the same high regard they had for U2 in its earliest years.

And one more thing – how can two unreleased songs possibly be placed on a singles compilation? Surely, "The Saints Are Coming" is not a U2 single, as it is a Skids single. "Window in the Skies" is not a single because, well, no one has ever heard it.

Taken holistically, though, the album holds its own. It is a solid collection of cult favorites like "Sunday Bloody Sunday" and "New Years Day," albeit infiltrations from less-esteemed newer releases. And amid the confusion surrounding "Window in the Skies," it's actually pretty good.

Alum Curates Exhibition on Love

JEN McINNIS
ASSISTANT ARTS & LIVING EDITOR

A combination of eclectic materials such as feathers and shells, gold pieces and brass triangles, coupled with more conventional materials such as canvases and paints, are fused together into a variety of installations in Arturo Lindsay's "Love" exhibition, part of Lindsay's examination of "the power of art to enhance the power of love."

Lindsay's final exhibition, "Love," was presented by the Office of Multicultural Affairs and curated by Nakeisha Gumbs '07. Consisting of "three solo exhibitions in which the artist-scholar explores both personal and collective emotional experiences," the exhibit opened last Friday in Chase Gallery, shortly following the artist's lecture on his artwork.

Lindsay, a professor of art and art history at Atlanta's Spelman College, draws much of the inspiration for his artwork from his background. As a self-identified mestizo, born in Panama but raised in New York City, Lindsay relies on his artwork to explore his diverse cultural and racial heritage. Much of his work also focuses on the impacts of the African Diaspora, particularly on cultures in the Americas.

"The African Diaspora has influenced the entire world," said Lindsay during his lecture on Friday. "My work has a conversation with things from Africa – artifacts and objects that represent something larger than themselves. That's where the whole idea of the ashé comes in, conversing with the ashé or the life force of that artifact... Everything has an ashé, but that ashé has different kinds of interactions depending on the individual, just like art itself."

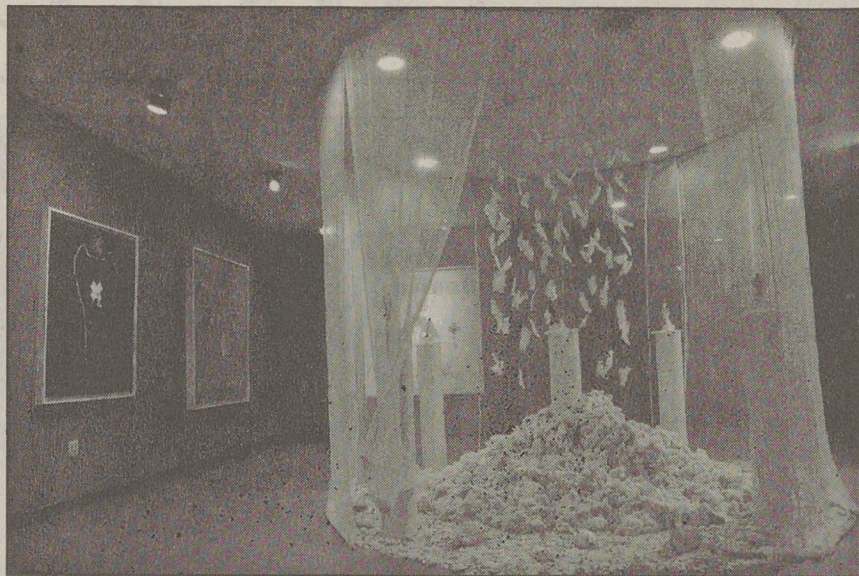
While Lindsay works in a "secular space to make his 'contemporary' art," his work is greatly influenced by religion and culture, specifically the traditions of the Congos. The Con-

gos, writes Lindsay, "are descendents of Africans who liberated themselves from bondage through a series of wars fought against the Spanish crown during the colonial period in Panama." Inspiration and influences from the traditions of the Congos are notably apparent in Lindsay's "Love" exhibition and in the exhibition's examination of "the spiritual and aesthetic retentions, rediscoveries and re-inventions of African cultures in America."

Lindsay's examination of these retentions, rediscoveries and re-inventions of African cultures in America is especially apparent in the "Love Hunters" series of his exhibition. These five pieces feature images of the faces of women donning jackets that are adorned in a variety of materials, from shells to gold beads to mirrors and bright paints. Through the jackets, the work is linked to the African Diaspora, in that these "Love Hunter" jackets are reminiscent of traditional hunter jackets found throughout West Africa, and apparent in many Congo villages in Panama. Customarily, these jackets were made from the skin of animals, embellished with pieces of the Qur'an and used as protection in many West African villages.

"I was particularly drawn to the hunter's jacket," said Lindsay. "These jackets are rooted throughout West Africa, but there are many jackets of the Congos similar to these hunter jackets. Through the jackets, I was looking at the idea that we as human beings have things that protect us and change the order of the world. The whole idea of the jacket is about talking to the ashé of that animal to protect you. In the two 'Love Hunters' pieces, the women wearing the jackets are seeking love, hunting love. But the jackets are also protecting these women from the painful side of love."

One of the central and most striking pieces of the "Love" exhibition, "The



I-HWEI WARNER/THE BATES STUDENT

The Chase Hall Gallery houses Arturo Lindsay's art exhibit on the power of love.

Birth of Love," also draws from artifacts of the African Diaspora to explore the initial emotions collectively experienced during the beginning stages of love. Through feathers and veneer curtains, Lindsay conveys the excitement and the "butterflies" of new love, while condoms evoke the more dangerous and potentially harmful sides. As a three-dimensional piece, "The Birth of Love" allows the audience to individually interact with and experience the emotions expressed through the piece.

All of the pieces in the "Love" exhibition connect with Lindsay's intention to examine and reflect upon the influence of "African spirituals and aesthetic traditions in contemporary Latin American cultures." His focus still remains on the culture and traditions of the Congos, especially in the 16th century Spanish colonial village Portobelo, where Lindsay established a studio thanks to a Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest International Artist Award. As a result of this award, Lindsay produced

a major solo exhibition at the Museo de Arte Contemporaneo in Panama City.

Following this exhibition, Lindsay co-founded an artists' cooperative, Taller Portobelo, in 1996 with the intention of preserving the culture and traditions of the Congos. Now, Lindsay brings his dedication to the Congos to Spelman College, where he established the Spelman College Summer Art Colony, which enables college students as well as emerging artists to live and work in Portobelo every summer from 1997 until the present. He also began the Spelman College International Artist-in-Residence Program, which annually affords a Congo artist the opportunity to further their work through workshops in Atlanta.

Lindsay's art is contemporary in every sense of the word, in that it reflects the interactions and influences of separate cultures and traditions in our increasingly globalized world. Be sure to check out the "Love" exhibition, on display from March 21 until April 5.

Senior Exhibit Debuts Diverse Talents, Unique Styles

ELIZA REED
DEPUTY EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

On April 4, the Bates College Museum of Art will unveil the culminating works of seven graduating studio arts majors. The works, which vary greatly in medium and style, are the results of year-long thesis projects.

The goal of the intensive, year-long project is to create a cohesive body of work that stems from intensive exploration and learning. Its aim is for majors to develop as artists through learning how to work creatively and independently on a comprehensive project.

Chad Casey's drawing thesis illustrates Franz Kafka's novella, "The Metamorphosis," which comments on the decay of the human spirit through the story of a salesman who is transformed into a dying bug. Casey represents the story through digital photos of dioramas, allowing him to limit the number of drawings he made while creating multiple scenes. Casey said he has "a love for macabre tales of decay and death," which adds in a haunting feel to his work.

"My thesis project has been an experiment in finding the line between ceramic objects that belong in kitchens and those that belong in galleries and museums," said Sean VanderVliet of his porcelain pieces. "Though I've put less emphasis on the function of my pieces I still always am asking myself: at what point does my work become unusable?"

VanderVliet's work is heavily influenced by works of ancient Asian cerami-



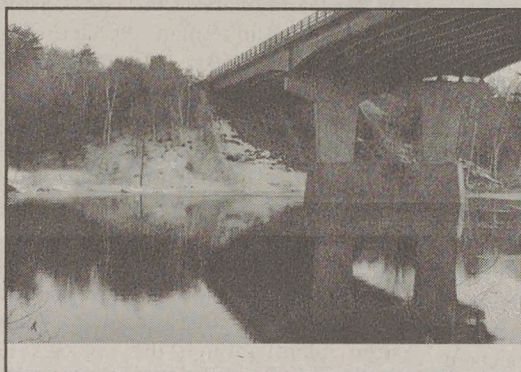
OFFICE OF COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA RELATIONS/COURTESY PHOTO

Eugene Kim's corporeal contribution to the Senior Art Exhibition.

cists. The greatest struggle of his thesis has been the fragility of his project and the flaws of clay as a medium.

Emily Hopkins' thesis explores the relationship between the human and the natural by drawing connections between the human body and a tree. She draws similarities between the human nervous system and the roots and branches of a tree. Through using tracing paper to create layers, her drawings highlight the fragility as well as the mystery of both the human body and nature.

In her series "Horribly Sweet," Missy Shaw combines her skills from her



OFFICE OF COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA RELATIONS/COURTESY PHOTO

Rachel Harmeling photographs human constructs in nature.

summer job as a cake decorator with her love for photography. Her exhibit consists of large, colorful, digital photographs that have an abstract pop-art feel. The staged stills, which were taken of sugar sculptures and kitchen utensils, have an eerie feel to them as they combine the visceral with the mundane.

"My photographs are beautiful, yet disturbing at the same time," commented Shaw. "I love the idea that something as beautiful and sweet as sugar can feel so sinister."

Eugene Kim's project consists of large-scale studies of the early works of French Academy masters, Pierre-Paul Prud'hon and George Seurat. A double major in studio art and biology, he is particularly interested in physiology, the anatomy of the body and the ways that the classical figure drawings are greatly out of proportion to highlight the strength and grace of the body. He con-

siders himself an apprentice to some of the greatest artists in history and hopes to apply the skills he learned from this thesis to future work with a model.

"Stroke by stroke, line by line, I hope to progress as a draftsman in the same way that French Academy draftsmen had," commented Kim. "Study by study, drawing by drawing, I struggle to achieve perfection."

For her project, Whitney Fahy created unique prints that focused on the structure and intricacies of the female face. "I concentrate on the face because it is the most telling and complicated part of the body," commented Fahy. "I simplify the figure in my work because I am interested in the play between figuration and abstraction."

In her black-and-white photography, Rachel Harmeling is studying the way that man-made structures are complemented by nature through looking at the reflections and shadows they create. Her work highlights the unknown beauty of structures that typically go unnoticed by accenting their unique angles and curves.

"The presences of small objects or a ripple in the water are the only signs that separate the bridges from their reflections," said Harmeling. "I work with reflections because of the symmetry they create is mysterious."

The exhibit opens Friday, April 4 at 7 p.m. and runs until May 24.

Sexual Cinema

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

ing to find an administrator to help her register for classes, Carmen seeks the guidance of a rather brawny and sleazy-looking faculty member. Needless to say, Carmen's accent fades along with plot and the rest of the movie circulates around Carmen and her cohort "making new friends." I can't say that we were a more enlightened group upon leaving that room, but if nothing else, we were entertained.

Porn is one of those "lurking in the shadows" hobbies. For some people it's disgusting and a waste of time, but for others it's a way to pass the time and enjoy some (possibly) quality entertainment. If you haven't taken a gander at porn before, ask someone to recommend a website or movie, because chances are, more people enjoy porn than you may think. Take a visit to one of the adult bookstores either in town or any other city. They're only as awkward inside as you make them. Most employees are friendly and welcoming.

There's a wide variety of porn; I'm sure everyone could find something that would suit his or her fancy. Yes, some of it can get quite weird and possibly degrading, but there are endless numbers of websites, magazines and movies that can satisfy any sexual appetite or curiosity.

A Need for Better Posture

OLIVIA LIGGIO
STAFF WRITER

One of my favorite things to do in Commons is to people-watch. I love, love, love to observe people walking to and from their tables socializing with their friends. I look at what they are wearing. Unfortunately, I have also noticed that the majority of girls at Bates College have horrible posture.

"Posture!" you say, "This is supposed to be a fashion column; what does posture have to do with fashion?" I know this is a fashion column and posture is not something you wear, but let me tell you this: posture can make or break any outfit. The only time you should ever have sunken shoulders is if you're modeling for Alexander McQueen's couture collection. You know what I am talking about – those models wearing the almost silly-looking outfits with their hands on their pelvic bone and their shoulders thrust forward. If you are not modeling for Mr. McQueen, which I assume you are not, then there is no excuse (except for back problems) to be slouching. You do not see Angelina Jolie walking down the red carpet slouching in a fabulous evening gown. Yes, I also know that you are not Angelina Jolie, but that woman exudes confidence and sex appeal. Good posture presents an air of confidence, and confidence is sexy.

I do not want to hear excuses for poor posture. Think you are too tall? Poor posture maybe takes a quarter of an inch off your height. After all, you can never be too tall – trust me, half of the girls around you are probably jealous of your height. If you are unhappy with your bosom then find a different bra, because slouching only makes your "girls" look worse in that shirt.

My mother is a stickler for posture. When I was growing up, she was constantly reminding me to keep my shoulders back. I am now becoming my mother and preaching her words to all of my faithful readers. I remember when I was studying for the SAT and my tutor told me that good posture would help my test taking, he was right. Practice good posture if not for your clothes, but for your grades. While sitting at your desk writing a paper keep those shoulders back and your neck straight. When you are walking through Commons, walk with purpose and show off what your Momma gave ya!

Anything you wear – from a sweater to a dress – can be made to look better if you are standing straight. Poor posture can make you look overweight, underweight, sulky, lazy and/or plain. No one wants to be any of those things. Instead, look fabulous, confident, wide-eyed and unique. Practice good posture and I promise you people will notice a difference.



Maybe by the end of senior year she'll be able to have a decent hand at poker?

Girl: So... I saw your brother.. he's still a virgin right? I kinda wanted to do him, but then I realized, HEY, I can't take two v-cards in one week-end.

Parker, St Patrick's Day

Can college students be any cheaper?

Girl: God, I need to not drink this weekend so my tolerance goes back down.

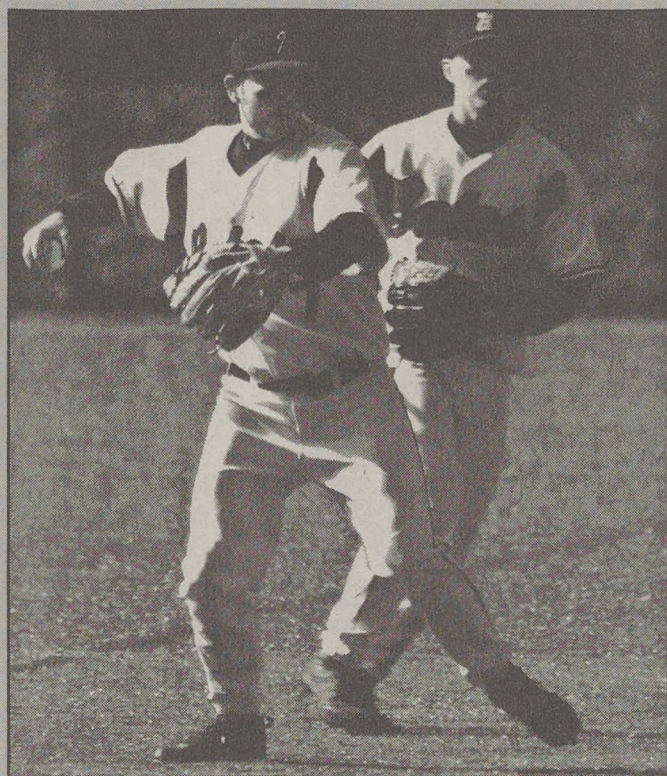
Pettengill Hall

Professors say the darndest things

Boy: My professor told me taking a three-hour seminar with Freedman is like drinking a bottle of Nyquil and trying to beat off... it's impossible.

College Street

Baseball Sweeps, 2-0 on Weekend



SCOTT HEIDE/COURTESY PHOTO

Senior Brian Mahoney fields a ground ball and prepares to throw to first. Mahoney was 4-7 with 5 RBIs in the double-header.

ERIC ARMSTRONG
STAFF WRITER

After a disappointing opening weekend, Bates baseball improved to a respectable 3-4 after sweeping Saturday's doubleheader against the University of Maine Presque Isle.

While the games were technically home games for the Bobcats, they were played in Darien, Connecticut, due to the condition of fields in Maine.

Bates won the first game by a score of 19-2. Sean VanderVliet '08 pitched five solid innings before he was relieved by Ryan Heide '11 in the sixth.

Senior Erik Hood went 2-3, including a two-run home run. Denis Hogan '08 and Alex Egelson '08 were each 2-4. Rob Patton '08 went 1-2. The Bobcats delivered such a devastating blow to the Owls that the game was ended prematurely due to the mercy rule.

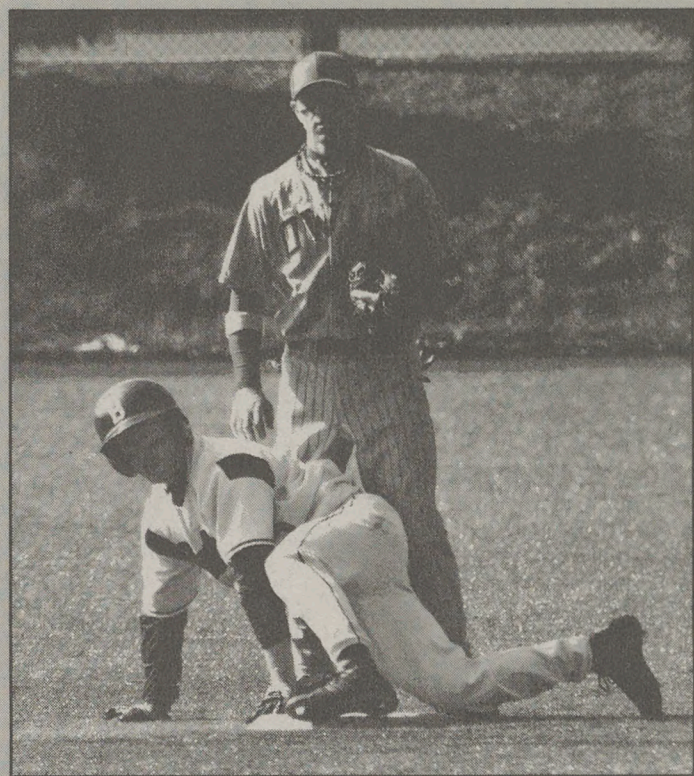
In the second game, Custer

Cook '10 took a no-hitter into the seventh inning before surrendering his only hit of the game. Meanwhile, other Bobcats padded their offensive stats. Brian Mahoney '08 went 3-4 with 4 RBIs, Hood went 3-4 and Captain Alexander Maulucci '08 went 2-3.

U-Maine Presque Isle combined to go 6-40, batting .130 on the day. Bates went 25-38, batting .397.

While the overwhelming win had been foreseen, the events of the past weekend allowed Bates to showcase its outstanding abilities at the plate. Coupled with the impressive bullpen action showcased in the Central Florida Invitational last weekend, Bates baseball seems poised for success.

The team will open their first NESCAC series this Friday against Tufts (6-5). Bates is 2-7 against the Jumbos in their last nine meetings.



SCOTT HEIDE/COURTESY PHOTO

Senior second baseman Denis Hogan clings to the bag after successfully swiping second base.

In Times of Desperation, Batesies Must Have Hope

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

introduced a men's soccer team as the school's fourth sport. Since then, Bates has added 21 other teams and suffered only 13 cumulative losing seasons. In fact, the school hasn't suffered two aggregate losing seasons in a row since the '82-'83 and '83-'84 school years.

Fine. What about contemporary success?

Bates posted its second highest composite winning percentage and set the school record for most wins in a school year in the 2004-2005 season, just three years ago, when the aforementioned Bates teams went a combined 176-115-3 (.605).

Winning streaks? Women's basketball went 136-62 (.687) from the '96-'97 season to the '05-'06 season, women's soccer went 74-33 (.692) from 2000 to 2005, men's lacrosse was 43-10 (.811) from 1984 until 1987 and field hockey went 43-3-2 (.935) from 1967 to 1973.

While field hockey's winning percentage over that span puts the save percentage of an NHL goalie to shame, they aren't even the best team in school history. The squad with the best record? You probably didn't guess it: volleyball. The volleyball team went 311-50 (.861) from 1985 to 1993, boasts an overall record of 827-358 (.698) and has won 30 or more games 10 times in its 41-year history.

Okay, so there have been highlights. But how many of those wins came against schools in the U-Maine system? How does Bates stack up against the rest of the conference?

There have been 291 NESCAC Championships in the history of the conference, and Bates has had teams eligible to compete in 273 of them. The NESCAC has only 11 members and Bates has won a total of 12 NESCAC

championships. That's a success rate of less than five percent. With 25 NESCAC Championships this year, in an equal world, each school would win approximately two championships a year. Bates hasn't claimed a conference crown since women's soccer did so in 2004.

At first glance, those numbers don't look very good.

Fortunately, the NESCAC is not a conference wrought with parity. Williams College has won 42 percent of the NESCAC Championships. No, I don't

Thus, it would seem that the problem lies not as much with our college but perhaps with the conference in which we participate.

Nevertheless, Bates' athletic program is far from perfect. While I can sit here, safe and sound, hiding behind my words, recently computed statistics and the soft white glow of my laptop screen, my journalistic nitpicking means nothing in comparison to the testimony of the athletes themselves.

I took a polling of Bates' varsity

Like Wall Street's plummeting stock prices, it would seem our sports teams are spiraling out of control. The combination of dissatisfied captains and disconnected athletes coupled with one of the worst statistical seasons in the past 30 years has all the makings of a fire sale. But we aren't day traders or reactionary peons of the system. As Bobcats, we're in it for the long run. We aren't going to liquidate our holdings and run to some flashy new tech company, transferring to a Middlebury or a Trinity. Let us not

goals.

While this is my last column of the year, barring expulsion following the publication of this article it will not be the last of my career. Nevertheless, I am feeling a little high off my impending freedom and I think I am going to end 2008 swinging.

I don't think E.T.H. is committed to athletic success, and neither do the majority of Bates' captains. President Hansen, if this is not the case, you have done nothing to communicate otherwise.

We are never going to attract choice Division I talent, so we need not worry about hoopsters leaving early for the draft or grid-iron stars transferring to other schools for a better shot at a starting position. For the most part, Batesies are here to stay. So please, get us a Division III version of Vince Young. Is that so much to ask for? A blazing 40-time, lightning reflexes and a cannon arm?

He will graduate and his exploits on the field will put money back into the school. Regardless of the feasibility of a player like that in our football team's current system, he would be fun to watch. We could hold bake sales to fund our coach's recruiting trips. I will trade Vince the Bobcat my off-campus single for his triple in Parker, serve him his meals in Commons, introduce him to girls (because I know a ton of girls) and drive him wherever he wants to go.

When schools commit to improving their sports teams, there are immediate benefits, tangible and otherwise, in nearly every category. Good sports teams attract better athletes and a greater quantity of intelligent students and faculty members who simply enjoy spectator sports. For proof of this formula's success, one need look no further than Duke or Stanford.

Sports, like stocks, are cyclical. The savvy investor buys when times are bad in anticipation of the next boom. Perhaps we too should take stock in our currently crappy teams, attending lacrosse and softball games and familiarizing ourselves with first-year athletes and the 2008-2009 team captains in hopes that things will get better. After all, they are the future.

A new sun is rising Bates. Better luck next year.

NESCAC by the Numbers

Bates' record: 16-42-1.

Winning percentage: .276.

Percentage of NESCAC games lost: 73.

Teams in the NESCAC: 11.

NESCAC Championships in history: 291.

NESCAC Championships occurring this year: 25.

Bates NESCAC Championships to date: 12.

Percentage of Bates NESCAC Championships: 4.4.

Williams NESCAC Championships: 123.

Pctg. of Williams NESCAC Championships: 42.

mean the Purple Cows have won 42 percent of the championships in which they have played. Williams has won 42 percent of the NESCAC Championships that have ever occurred.

The Ephs have won twice as many championships (123) as the school second on the list, which is Middlebury with 50 (.172). Following Williams and Middlebury is Amherst with 32 (.110), then Trinity (24, .082), Bowdoin (20, .069), Tufts (14, .048), Bates (12, .044), Colby (9, .031), Hamilton (3, .010), Wesleyan (3, .010) and finally Conn. College with a whopping zero NESCAC Championships to their credit.

captains from the fall and winter seasons to see what they thought of the current state of Bates athletics. I heard back from some and heard nothing from others, but on the whole I gathered that athletes at this school feel generally detached from the decision-making process and snubbed by the school's administration.

The exception to this rule is Kevin McHugh. Bobcat captains seemed to universally rave about the new athletic director, citing his commitment to achieving Bates success on and off the field and his accessibility to the athletes themselves.

Unfortunately, captains also expressed confusion and suspicion over recruiting; others cited the need for new uniforms and equipment and there seemed to exist a universal consensus that the College's facilities were hopelessly out of date. Said one varsity captain, "I would rather pay a local gym to work out than use the weight room offered by one of the most elite schools in the country."

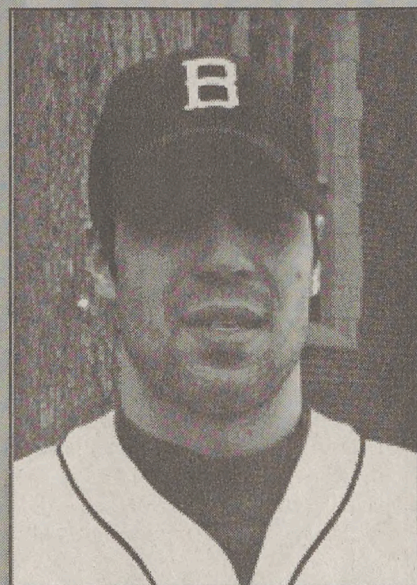
panic, selling our college, the administration, our coaches and players down the figurative river. Tough times, they come to us all. We need to be strong and wait it out. Things will get better.

Then again, maybe this is the end. Maybe the sports market at Bates crashes. Anarchy rules. President Hansen achieves the jock-free society of which she has always dreamed. Bates adds four ceramics classes to the course catalogue, issues monogrammed berets instead of Nalgene to all first-year students, changes the cardio room to a painting studio and transfers funding normally delegated to the baseball team to the foundation of Bates' first philharmonic orchestra.

I don't believe this will happen. I have faith in our administration. They are committed to keeping students happy, attracting intelligent, creative and athletic future classes, boosting the school's ranking and perhaps most of all making money. I believe (and they should too) that an elite athletic program is crucial in achieving all of these

BOBCAT OF THE WEEK

Eric Hood - '08



WWW.BATES.EDU/COURTESY PHOTO

Eric Hood went 5-7 with 5 runs, 3 RBI, 2 doubles and a 2-run homerun in Bates' double-header against the University of Maine Presque Isle this weekend. He batted .417 with a slugging percentage of 1.429.

Playing Dead, Bates Back to Life with Pair of Quick Wins

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

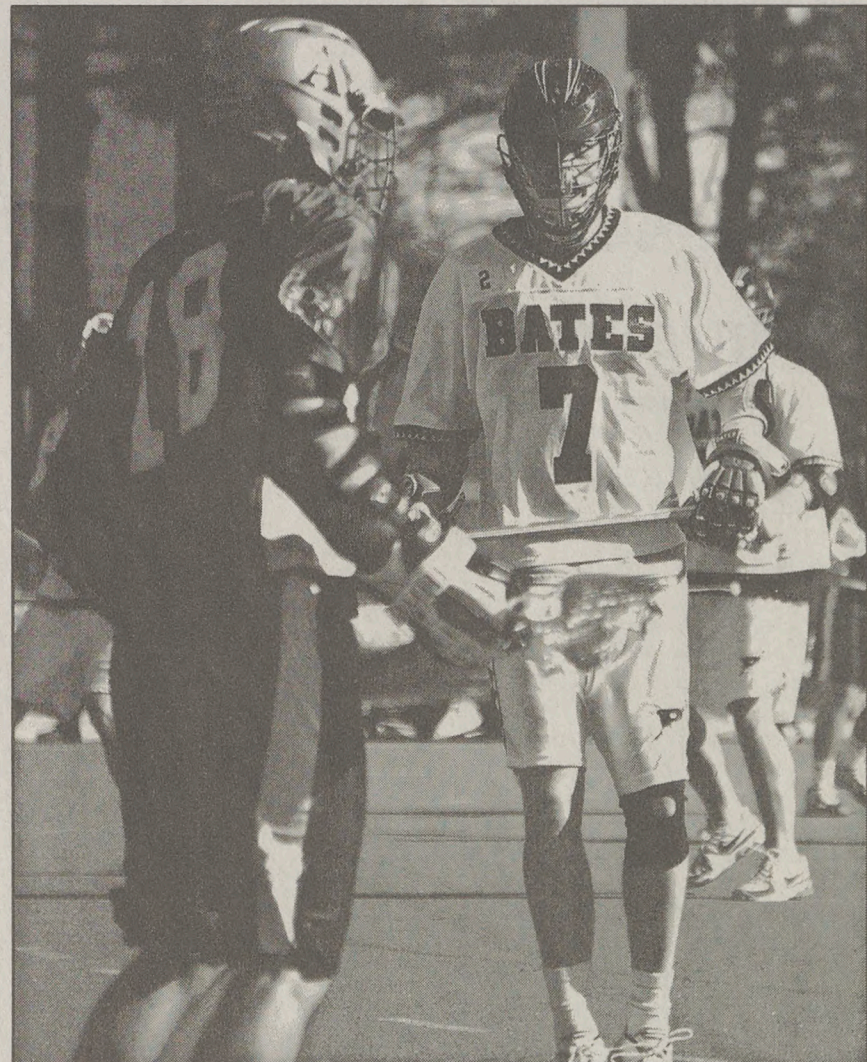
perience for some of the young talent.

Saturday's contest featured an Amherst team that looked to drop the Bobcats to 0-3 in NESCAC play, but instead found themselves with their first loss of the season. Behind his stellar defense, senior Co-Captain Will Paddock totaled 10 saves, while allowing only 1 goal in each quarter. The solid defense allowed the offense to control the pace of the game without being rushed into poor shots. Bates won the game 9-4.

On the offensive end, the Bobcats were paced yet again by Moore with 2 goals, while sophomore Mike Nadler added 2 of his own. Simon and Morin added 1 goal and 1 assist apiece to add to the offensive totals for the Bobcats.

The two wins bring the Bobcats' record to 2-5 overall (1-2 NESCAC).

With their first two wins of the season behind them, Bates will look to make it three in a row when they face Williams on the road in a NESCAC contest this Saturday.



HWEI WARNER/THE BATES STUDENT

Junior Nate Kellogg picks up his man in Saturday's game against Amherst.

SPORTS

The Bates Student

A Step in the Right Direction



Senior Bryan Frates takes the ball up the field against Amherst. Frates scored Bates' first goal in the first minute of the 9-4 win.

HARRY POOLE
STAFF WRITER

With five consecutive losses to start the season, the men's lacrosse team took advantage of two home games to get back in the win column. The Bobcats played two games at

MacDuffe Field this past week, one on Wednesday against The University of Southern Maine and a NESCAC game on Saturday against Amherst.

Wednesday's game was, simply put, a complete blowout. While the final score of 19-3 is the most obvious indicator, the box score further high-

lights the Bobcats' dominance. The Bobcats out-shot USM by a wide margin of 52 to 16 while also out-hustling the Huskies by picking up 49 ground balls compared with USM's 25.

The Bobcats were paced by senior Justin Simon (3 goals) and junior Tyler Moore (3 goals), with senior Captain

Brent Morin, junior Nate Kellogg and junior Alex Cronstein all chipping in 2 goals apiece. While USM proved to be no match for the Bobcats, it was certainly good to get the offense roaring as well as provide some in-game ex-

See **PLAYING DEAD**, page 7

The State of Bates Athletics



MAC KING
MANAGING SPORTS
EDITOR

Rumors. Bates loves rumors. The Bobcat gossip mill treads faster than Daryl Strawberry tracking a fly ball during his coke phase.

Amidst reports that Commons puts laxatives in our food and E.T.H. is actually a fembot, there exists a longstanding Bates rumor that our school has a below average athletic program. In fact, I believe below average is being kind. I think the majority of our student body would label Bates athletics as downright pathetic.

I have to confess that in light of this past school year's athletic accomplishments, I too have experienced feelings of dismay with the local sporting scene. In fact, I set out writing this column (my last of the school year) to sum up Bates' seemingly dismal 2007-2008 campaign and perhaps forward a plea to the administration to rescue Bates sports.

Despite a flurry of individual successes, it has been a tough year for the majority of our teams. Certainly, there are exceptions. Both basketball teams made the playoffs and both squash teams experienced periods of dominance. Bobcats excelled on the individual stage at Indoor Track and Field Nationals, Women's Swimming and Diving Nationals and NCAA Skiing Championships. But what about victories here in Lewiston? What about the school's premier spectator sports? The would-be money-makers if this were a Division I school?

Men's basketball, women's basketball, field hockey, football, men's soccer, women's soccer, men's squash, women's squash, volleyball, men's tennis, women's tennis, men's lacrosse, women's lacrosse, baseball and softball have combined to go 94-115-2 so far this school year. That's a winning percentage of .450, the College's worst mark since going 76-93-2 (.450) in the 1977-1978 season, when the school didn't have a men's squash, women's squash or a women's soccer team.

Even bleaker seeming, Bates teams posted a 16-42-1 record in the NESCAC this year. That's a winning percentage of .276, meaning Bates lost nearly 73 percent of its conference matches.

In many ways these numbers are flawed. They obviously fail to account for all of the teams that don't quantify their achievements with traditional win-loss records, namely, cross-country, track and field, golf, swimming and rowing. Six teams with win-loss records have yet to complete – and in many cases, have just begun – their spring seasons. And numbers in general fail to capture the intangibles of how a team played or progressed.

Furthermore, the actual mathematics of these calculations makes for misleading results. A particularly devastating season for a Bates team with a lot of games on its schedule can cripple the College's aggregate record, while a team with fewer games can have an astounding season and the College can still lose more games than it wins. For example, if the volleyball team has an off year, Bates is almost guaranteed to have an aggregate losing record as volleyball plays nearly 50 games. But if the football team gets a dynamic quarterback and goes 8-0 (someone who matters please take note of this suggestion), those eight wins won't necessarily have a large impact on the school's composite win-loss record.

Obviously it goes both ways. If volleyball wins 40 games and every other team goes 5-6, numerically Bates is still likely to have a winning season. But if the football team goes 0-8, the College can still post a respectable mark.

The system isn't perfect, but it is interesting. The fact that Bates had its worst overall win-loss record in 30 years and its second worst record since the College's three-sport era is difficult to ignore.

Nevertheless, it's hasty for us to be so shortsighted. Does one bad season signify the demise of the program or epitomize the school's athletic history?

I was inclined to answer "yes." But upon some further statistical analysis, it seems the answer is more complicated.

Bates has had men's basketball, football and baseball teams since before the Big Bang. But in 1962, the College

See **IN TIMES OF DESPERATION**, page 7

Women's Tennis Beats Colby for First Win

ALI BLANKSTEEN
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The drought has ended.

On Tuesday, March 18, the Bobcats ended a streak of tough losses with an impressive 6-3 victory over in-state rival Colby.

In doubles, top pair Alex Piacquad '10 and Co-Captain Caryn Benisch '09 shut out the competition in a clean 8-0 sweep. The second-seeded pair, comprised of Co-Captain Mallika Raghavan '08 and Liz Fleming '08, followed suit with an 8-4 win of their own.

In singles, Bates hit home a 1-2-3-4-punch of successive wins at the top of the ladder, with Fleming sealing a come-from-behind win in the third game.

Benisch in particular is basking in the glory of her team's first 2008 win, as Tuesday's match also marks the first time in her collegiate career that Be-

nisch has seen the Bobcats defeat the Mules.

"We proved to ourselves that when we go out and compete for every ball, we will see the results we want in the final score," said Benisch. "If we go into every match looking to compete on every ball and confident that grit and heart will get us the results we want, like it did against Colby, we will be hard to beat."

Confident in the depth of their ladder, the team will begin the bulk of their NESCAC competition with optimism and aggression, looking to make up for a string of losses earlier this season.

With the majority of their conference matches yet to be played, Bates holds a promising 1-1 record as they head into the heart of their schedule. The Bobcats will take this momentum with them as they press on to host a conference match against Tufts next Sunday, March 30.

Softball Drops Double-Header, Still Winless

ALI BLANKSTEEN
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Merely knee-deep in the 2008 schedule, the softball team continues to search for this season's breakthrough victory.

This past weekend, the team welcomed the official start of spring on March 21 with a double-header against Rhode Island College. Facing off on RIC's diamond, Bates was left scoreless in the day's first defeat, which ended 8-0. The Bobcats showed signs of life in the second game, scoring 3 runs. Bates even took the first lead of the game, 1-0, as Val Beckwith '09 had an RBI single in the third inning to get Bates on the board. As the lead began to slip, Captain Stacia Saniuk '09 belted her first homerun of the season to keep the momentum going, tying the game at two-apiece. In the

end, the team's efforts to keep up with their competitors were to no avail as Rhode Island fired back with a slew of unanswered runs. Beckwith, in addition to her go-ahead RBI, ended the day 3-7 at the plate, while sophomore Jill Cappucci made strides of her own, with 2 hits in the second game.

Rookie pitcher Sarah Cullum '11 took the mound in game one, lasting 5 innings and letting up 5 runs, as fellow first-year Heather Dwan took over in game two, striking out two and giving up 5 runs on 6 hits.

The team is scheduled to face Trinity College on March 28 in a late afternoon match-up, directly followed by a doubleheader against the Bantams the next day. The March 22 doubleheader against Brandeis University was postponed to an indefinite date due to bad weather.

Men's Tennis on Four-Game Winning Streak

PAUL LOMBARDI
STAFF WRITER

The men's tennis team finished off another successful week with wins over Colby College and the University of Southern Maine. The Bobcats, who have won four straight matches, are now 7-2 on the season and 7-1 in Division III play.

Bates started off the week with a 7-2 win over NESCAC rival Colby. The Bobcats won two of three doubles matches and five of six singles matches against the Mules. Junior Co-Captain Ben Stein and sophomore Amrit Rupasinghe won first doubles, 8-2. Sophomore Zach Fenno and senior Daniel Acosta won second doubles, 8-6, while sophomores Max Berger and Michael Reiss lost a close match, 9-8. In singles competition, Stein won 6-1, 6-1, Reiss 6-3, 6-0, Berger 6-1, 6-3, Fenno 6-0, 6-0 and Acosta 7-5, 6-4. Rupasinghe lost his singles match 6-4, 3-6, 7-6.

Three days later, Bates traveled to USM and defeated the Huskies 9-0. The Bobcats dominated play, winning all six singles matches and all three of the doubles matches. Rupasinghe and Stein won first doubles 8-4, Fen-

no and Acosta won second doubles 8-2, and Reiss and sophomore Ryan Mannely won third doubles 8-3. Junior Co-Captain Mike Sherman came back from an injury and played his first match of the spring season. Sherman hadn't lost a step, cruising to an easy 6-0, 6-0 victory in fifth singles play. Acosta, playing fourth singles, also didn't lose a game, winning 6-0, 6-0.

On March 18, two days before Bates dismantled Southern Maine, the ITA (Intercollegiate Tennis Association) released its Division III rankings, placing the Bobcats 28th nationally and seventh in the Northeast region.

The men's tennis team still has seven matches remaining and knows the season is far from over. The team is hopeful that they can reach the NCAA Championships hosted by Bates.

"We are playing good ball as a team...however we haven't accomplished anything yet," said Sherman. "Our team's goal is to make it to the NCAA Finals Elite 8 Championships to be held at Bates in May...we are going to work as hard as we can to make it and play on our home courts against the best teams in the country."

Women's Lacrosse Loses to Amherst, Winless in Conference

BRENDAN BRODEUR
STAFF WRITER

On Saturday, the women's lacrosse team lost 8-4 to Amherst's Lord Jeffs in Amherst, Mass. The match was just Bates' second in-conference game so far this season.

The game was scoreless for the first three minutes until first-year Briana Gross put Bates on the scoreboard with a goal. Amherst was quick to answer Gross' goal, and with 3 consecutive goals they took the lead. Gross then scored again, followed by a goal from first-year Abby Saucier to tie the game 3-3. Refusing to enter the half with the score tied, Amherst scored 3 more goals to enter the half with a 6-3.

The second half saw much less scoring. The first goal came 16 minutes in from junior Caroline Thomas but was answered by 2 more goals from the Lord Jeffs that gave them an 8-4 lead, which they held for the remainder of the contest. Bates goalie Mara

Krueger '11 recorded 9 saves for the Bobcats.

With this weekend's match completed, Amherst moves to 5-0 on the season, 2-0 in the conference. Bates falls to 1-3 on the year and is still looking for their first conference win of the season. Despite having played in only two conference matches thus far this season, Bates will have the chance to improve their record with their upcoming matches.

Thomas currently leads all Bobcat scorers with 12 goals and 4 assists on the season. She has a shooting percentage of .524. Maciewicz is next on the list with 8 goals and 5 assists. She is shooting a scorching .615.

Junior Lauren Kruck led the team in ground balls coming into the game with 10.

This Thursday, the Bobcats will play University of New England followed shortly by Williams College on Friday, Trinity on Saturday and rival Colby in early April.